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Jonathan Coppess

**Administrator
Farm Service Agency
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.**

Jonathan Coppess was appointed to serve as Administrator of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in July 2009. He previously served as the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs at the agency.

Prior to joining FSA, Coppess worked for U.S. Senator Ben Nelson as his legislative assistant for Agriculture, Energy and Environment. In this capacity, he advised Senator Nelson, a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, on agricultural issues and worked extensively on the 2008 Farm Bill.

Before moving to Washington, D.C., to pursue a career in agricultural policy, Coppess practiced law in Chicago as a commercial litigator for Freeborn & Peters LLP. Prior to attending law school, he worked at Archer Daniels Midland as a grain merchandiser.

Coppess grew up on his family's corn and soybean farm in Ohio, where he maintains an interest in the seven-generation family farm operated by his father and brother. Coppess resides in Washington, D.C., with his wife Susan and their daughter. He earned a juris doctor degree with honors from the George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C., and received a bachelor's degree in business from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

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Ann Tutwiler

**Coordinator for Global Food Security
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Ann Tutwiler previously was senior advisor for international affairs for Dr. Rajiv Shah, the former under secretary of Agriculture for research, education and economics. She has also served as advisor on International Trade for the Africa Bureau's Sustainable Development group at USAID.

Prior positions included Managing Director, Agricultural Markets for the Global Development Program at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and president and chief executive officer of the International Food & Agriculture Trade Policy Council, an organization that she co-founded in 1987. The International Policy Council is dedicated to developing and advocating policies that support an efficient and open global food system and sustainable production and distribution of safe, accessible food supplies. She served as Associate Director of the Council from its inception until 1992.

She was Director of Government Relations for the North American oilseed crushing and corn refining companies of Eridania Beghin-Say. She has served on the board of the International Fertilizer Development Council, the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa and the Dean Rusk International Studies Program at Davidson College. She also received certificates in agribusiness management from Purdue University and INSEAD.

Ann has published dozens of articles and edited two books on international agriculture policies, and speaks widely on a variety of agricultural policy issues. Ms. Tutwiler received a BA from Davidson College and Masters in Public Policy from John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She recently received John W. Kuykendall Alumni Service Award from Davidson College for her work in agricultural trade and development.

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Ambassador William J. Garvelink

**U.S. Government Deputy Coordinator for Development,
Feed the Future: Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative
U.S. Agency for International Development**

In April 2010, Ambassador Garvelink was appointed as the U.S. Government's Deputy Coordinator for Development for the Presidential Feed the Future: Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative and he assumed his duties in May 2010.

From October 2007 to May 2010, Mr. Garvelink served as the United States Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Congo. He managed a U.S. Mission staff of 470 and oversaw bilateral and multilateral assistance program of more than \$900 million annually.

From 2001 until his appointment as Ambassador in 2007, Mr. Garvelink served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator in the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance. His responsibilities included oversight of USAID worldwide humanitarian assistance and democracy programs. Offices within the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance include the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), Office of Food for Peace (FFP), Office of Democracy and Governance, Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (CMM) and the Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation (PVC). Mr. Garvelink is a member of the Senior Foreign Service (SFS) with the rank of Minister Counselor.

From 1999 to 2001, Mr. Garvelink served as the USAID Mission Director in Eritrea. He administered a development and relief program valued at more than \$55 million.

From 1988 to 1999 Mr. Garvelink served in OFDA first as the Assistant Director for Response and then as the Deputy Director. While in OFDA, he conducted assessments and directed relief operations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Near East, Europe and in the former Soviet Union.



Mr. Garvelink led Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DARTs) to Albania, Armenia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Northern Iraq, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia and Iran. He chaired the USAID Task Force for the Indian Ocean Tsunami, the USAID Task Force for the Pakistan Earthquake and the USAID Lebanon Task Force.

Prior to his work in OFDA, Mr. Garvelink served for two years in the Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) with responsibilities for southern Africa. He was posted for four years in Bolivia for USAID and served for three years as a staff member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. Garvelink has received numerous Superior Honor and Meritorious Honor Awards from State and USAID and two SFS Presidential Meritorious Awards in 2008 and 2001.

Mr. Garvelink holds degrees from Calvin College (BA) and the University of Minnesota (MA).

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Thomas Melito, PhD

**Director, International Affairs and Trade
U.S. Government Accountability Office**

Dr. Thomas Melito is Director of the International Affairs and Trade Team at GAO. In this capacity, he is primarily responsible for GAO work involving multilateral organizations and international finance. Over the last 10 years, Dr. Melito has been focusing on a wide range of development issues, including debt relief for poor countries, human trafficking, and international food assistance. Under his leadership, GAO's work on international food assistance included reviews of the efficiency and effectiveness of U.S. food aid programs, local and regional procurement of food aid, and monitoring and evaluation of nonemergency food aid programs. Since 2007, Dr. Melito has testified six times to Congress on GAO's food assistance work, most recently on efforts of the U.S. government to address global food insecurity.

Dr. Melito holds an MA and PhD in economics from Columbia University and a BS in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University.

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Max Finberg

**Director
Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Max Finberg has dedicated his career to serving others, especially hungry people. He has a wide range of experience in the government, non-profit, and political arenas.

In May 2009, he was appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack to direct USDA's Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Contained in the Office of the Secretary, the Center's mission is to build partnerships between USDA and faith-based and neighborhood organizations to better serve individuals, families and communities. The USDA Center works closely with the President Obama's White House Office on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. USDA administers programs that benefit one in five Americans with nutrition assistance, contribute to rural development, promote environmental stewardship and feed hungry people around the world.

Previously, he was the first director of the Alliance to End Hunger, a non-profit organization that engages diverse institutions in building the public will to end hunger, both in the United States and worldwide. The Alliance connects U.S. businesses, religious bodies, charities, foundations and individual donors to change the politics of hunger.

Prior to joining the Alliance, Mr. Finberg served Ambassador and former Representative Tony Hall (D-OH) for 12 years in a variety of capacities. He was special assistant to the ambassador at the U.S. Mission to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture in Rome, Italy, where he lived for almost three years. The U.S. Mission relates to the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization



(FAO), the World Food Program (WFP) and the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD).

Mr. Finberg was also senior legislative assistant covering domestic hunger and poverty issues for Representative Hall. He worked on the successful passage of The Hunger Relief Act and the Community Solutions Act with a variety of anti-poverty and faith-based organizations.

Mr. Finberg was the founding director of the Mickey Leland Hunger Fellows Program at the Congressional Hunger Center. He helped to start this unique fellowship program that fights hunger by developing leaders through a combination of direct service and public policy experience. The Program is now in its 16th year.

In 1990, he was selected as a Harry Truman Scholar from New York for his commitment to public service. He is an Eagle Scout, is involved with the Third Street Church of God and has been active with various initiatives around racial and religious reconciliation. He has traveled to almost 50 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East.

Mr. Finberg graduated with honors from Howard University's School of Divinity with a Master's Degree in Social Ethics and with Bachelor Degrees in Political Science, German and International Relations from Tufts University, where he met his wife Katherine. Their daughter, Eliana, was born in Rome in March 2005 and son, Matthias, was born in Washington, DC in July 2008. Max was born and raised in the Catskill Mountains of Upstate New York.

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Ahmadou Danpoulo Baba

Chief Executive Officer Imperial Foods Company Cameroon

Ahmadou Danpoulo Baba has been in business since 1993 and holds an MBA from the European University in Geneva. Shortly after his MBA, he started working for Sonetrad Sarl which was an import-export company dealing mainly towards the African market. In 1997, he left and came back to Cameroon where he opened Sonetrad Cameroon to deal with the importation of animal feed and food tuffs. Until 2002, Sonetrad was one of the main actors in this industry. In 2003, a new company was started to make energetic tea. This company called Sial Africfoods found instant success with this product which was a tea made with a mix of spices, kolas, and cloves. This tea operation was sold in March 2005 to CTE.

In February 2005, Gerald Theus, Deputy Director of USWA for sub-Saharan Africa, introduced him to the USDA project of launching fortified instant noodles in Africa to fight malnutrition, HIV/AIDS and poverty. As a result of that opportunity, a company called Imperial Foods was created in April 2006 to manufacture fortified instant noodles for the humanitarian market and mass market. The plant is currently being built and will commence operations by end of 2010. A strategic partnership was struck with IRD, an NGO based in Arlington, VA to market and introduce the products within the humanitarian community.

Ahmadou Danpoulo Baba is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Imperial Foods Company.

His family is well-known in the business community in Cameroon and has various businesses, mainly real estate, cattle breeding, and agriculture (tea plantations).

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Suzanne Berkey

Managing Director, Food Security ACDI/VOCA

Suzanne Berkey is Managing Director of the Food Security portfolio at ACDI/VOCA. She has over 14 years of experience in international development both overseas and at headquarters. In her current role, Ms. Berkey supervises ACDI/VOCA's operational support for food security programs, including USAID and USDA funded programs from Washington, D.C. and contributes to the development of new awards.

She has three years of field experience working as the Watershed, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist on a USAID funded P.L. 480 Title II project in Cape Verde. Ms. Berkey has served as co-chair of the Food Aid Consultative Group - Commodity Working Group and contributed to the development of the quality feedback loop. Prior to joining ACDI/VOCA, Ms. Berkey served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Cape Verde and prior to that, worked as an analyst in the energy industry.

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Allan Jury

**Director, US Relations Office
World Food Programme**

Allan Jury has been Director of the World Food Programme's (WFP) US Relations Office since September 1, 2008. In his current post based in Washington, DC, Mr. Jury is responsible for managing WFP's relations with its major partners in the U.S. Government and representing WFP in dialogue with U.S.-based civil society and private organizations interested in global food assistance issues. He also coordinates WFP's relations with the World Bank headquarters.

Mr. Jury previously served as WFP's Director of External Relations (2004-2008), where he was responsible for representing the programme and developing organizational policy on UN reform, interagency affairs, and relations with non-governmental organizations (NGOs). He joined the World Food Programme in March 2001 as Chief of the Policy Service, a post he held until June 2004.

Mr. Jury, a national of the United States of America, came to WFP following a twenty-five year career with the U.S. Department of State. He served as Director for Policy and Resource Planning in the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration prior to joining WFP. He has worked on international humanitarian and refugee affairs since 1987, with assignments in Washington, Geneva, and Bangkok. Other overseas diplomatic assignments have included the Philippines and the Netherlands.

Born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, Mr. Jury is a 1975 graduate of Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota with a B.A. in political science and Asian studies.

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Robert Scott Schirmer

**Senior Coordinator
Global Development Alliance
Office of Partnership Development
U.S. Agency for International Development**

Scott Schirmer is the Senior Coordinator for the Global Development Alliance (GDA), a Division within the Office of Partnership Development of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In this role he leads GDA efforts to expand the development and use of strategic public private partnerships and to facilitate the Agency's use of the full range of private sector partner opportunities to achieve its development and US foreign policy objectives. The Global Development Alliance is also responsible for guiding and supporting USAID's creation and use of strategic public private partnerships that can magnify and sustain the development impact USAID achieves with its resources.

Mr. Schirmer brings over 25 years of business management and marketing experience to the position as well as past development and humanitarian work with such organizations as Webster University, UNHCR, Refugees International, and most recently with the International Organization for Migration as IOM's Private Sector Liaison. Mr. Schirmer's experiences thus include a clear understanding of the business community plus his association with universities, NGOs and UN organizations located in Washington, Kabul and Geneva.

Mr. Schirmer graduated from Boston University with a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration. He later acquired his Master Degree in International Relations from Webster University as well as a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Washington University (St. Louis).

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Thomas A. Verdoorn

**Vice President, International Development
Land O'Lakes, Inc.**

Tom Verdoorn has more than 25 years experience in the food and agricultural industry. He joined Land O' Lakes in 1980 and was named Vice President and Controller in 1986. In 1993, he assumed the position of Vice President of finance and administration for Land O' Lakes' Dairy Foods businesses.

In February, 2001, Mr. Verdoorn became the Vice President of Land O'Lakes International Development Division, assuming operational oversight for Land O'Lakes international development activities in more than 30 countries, including projects in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Eurasia and the Middle East. These projects have emphasized developing cooperative systems, dairy livestock industries, rural enterprises, private extension and input supply services, and industry associations.

He serves as the liaison with donor agencies including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other development agencies and multi-national corporations.

Mr. Verdoorn has a broad background in private sector development of modern food systems, in finding effective solutions to improving profitability of stakeholders from the farm to the market system and has extensive experience in working with teams in mergers and acquisitions in domestic and international business operations.



Mr. Verdoorn currently serves on the boards of directors of ACDI/VOCA, the National Cooperative Business Association, Advanced Food Products, LLC, Prosperity Worldwide, the United States Dairy Export Council and the Overseas Cooperative Development Council. He holds a B.S. from Arizona State University.

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Andy McCormick

**Vice President, Public Affairs
The Hershey Company**

Mr. McCormick is Vice President, Public Affairs, for The Hershey Company. In this role, he is responsible for leading Hershey's Communications, Public Relations and Corporate Social Responsibility teams. His key responsibilities include external and internal communications, and the development and implementation of a global framework for social responsibility and sustainability, including responsible cocoa growing.

Mr. McCormick joined Hershey from Pfizer Inc., where he was Vice President, Worldwide Communications. Before joining Pfizer, he held positions at IBM Corporation and at daily newspapers in Virginia and Wilmington, Delaware. He also worked in Ghana as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer. He serves on the boards of the World Cocoa Foundation, the International Cocoa Initiative, and United Way of Lancaster County.

Mr. McCormick holds a Bachelor Degree from Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington.

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Chris Okafor, PhD

**Country Manager (Nigeria)
Sustainable Tree Crops Program
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture**

Dr. Okafor is the Country Manager (Nigeria) of the Sustainable Tree Crops Program (STCP) managed by the Ibadan-based International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). He successfully led the implementation of a 3-year (2002-2005) pilot phase of the program in Nigeria. He is presently providing leadership in implementing a follow up 5-year (2006-2011) country program strategies in Nigeria. This assignment includes building partnerships to achieve concerted and integrated efforts for the transformation of cocoa-farming communities in Nigeria.

STCP is a public-private partnership and innovation platform that seeks to generate growth in rural income among tree crop farmers in an environmentally and socially responsible manner in West/Central Africa. STCP seeks to achieve its goal by introducing innovations to enhance productivity, increase marketing efficiency, diversify farmer income, and strengthen the institutional and policy environment

More recently, Dr. Okafor received additional responsibility to implement the cocoa productivity improvement component of a five-year (2009 – 2013) Cocoa Livelihoods Program (CLP). The Program is the direct result of a close partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Cocoa Foundation, and a consortium of technical organizations including IITA/STCP, Technoserve, GTZ, ACDI/VOCA and SOCODEVI. CLP focuses on doubling the income of one third of the cocoa farming households in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria within ten years.



Prior to joining STCP, Chris had been involved, for fourteen years, in managing the IITA human resource development programs including graduate scholarship programs for national agricultural research and development systems in sub-Saharan Africa

Dr. Okafor holds a PhD (Program Evaluation) from the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria and is a member of professional bodies such as the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM), International Agricultural Centers Training Group, American Evaluation Association and International Association of Facilitators.

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Wesley Wilson

**Global Public Affairs Manager
Mars, Incorporated**

Mr. Wilson is the Global Public Affairs Manager for Mars, Incorporated, a private, family-owned company founded in 1911 and employing more than 65,000 associates at over 230 sites, including 135 factories, in 68 countries worldwide. Headquartered in McLean, Virginia, U.S.A., Mars, Inc. is one of the world's largest food companies, generating global revenues of more than \$28 billion annually and operating in six business segments: Chocolate, Petcare, Wrigley Gum and Confections, Food, Drinks, and Symbioscience.

In this role, Mr. Wilson works on a range of public policy issues and is responsible for supporting the Mars Global Advisors, which informs the senior management of Mars, Inc. as to how major public policy, geopolitical, and macroeconomic issues and trends affect business strategies and priorities.

Prior to joining Mars, Mr. Wilson held a series of positions which were engaged in the transformation of the U.S. Government's international development programs. Most recently, he directed the Global Development Commons initiative—a finalist for the 2009 Service to America Medal—to bring social media and enterprise tools into the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). He also served as the Senior Policy Advisor to the USAID Administrator, and was the Director of Policy Development for the HELP Commission, a Congressional and Presidential commission focused on foreign assistance reform. Mr. Wilson helped to start a new



international development agency—the Millennium Challenge Corporation—and participated in the negotiation of agreements with the Governments of Cape Verde, Ghana, and Lesotho. He also worked in international and legislative affairs at NASA.

Mr. Wilson holds a Master of Public Affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin, and did his undergraduate work at Missouri State University.

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Janet Nuzum

General Sales Manager and Associate Administrator

**Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Janet Nuzum joined the Foreign Agricultural Service as Associate Administrator in January 2010 and was named General Sales Manager in February. Before joining USDA, Janet served as a Senior Policy Advisor to Congressman Cal Dooley and as a Professional Staff Member for the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Ways and Means and Subcommittee on Trade. She has also worked as the Vice President and General Counsel for the International Dairy Foods Association.

Following her Senate confirmation in 1991, Janet became Vice Chairman and Commissioner to the U.S. International Trade Commission where she ruled on trade practices and investigated the economic impacts of U.S. trade negotiations.

Janet received her J.D. from Georgetown University.

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Gary Kühn

Executive Director Roots of Peace

Gary Kühn, a native Californian, joined Roots of Peace full-time in 2001 as the Executive Director, managing the international demining and sustainable development programs. Gary's experience includes over 23 years as a business executive, working in marketing, and business and agricultural development.

Gary started his career at IBM in San Francisco after graduating from the University of California, Berkeley in 1979. He furthered his education attending an executive program sponsored by IBM at Harvard University of Boston, Massachusetts. After leaving IBM, Gary joined Adobe Systems in 1990 to help develop business opportunities for PostScript and Acrobat. In 1998, Gary joined Autodesk where he managed the development team for AutoCAD LT, one of the company's leading products. Additionally, Gary has served as a consultant for a number of international technology companies working to establish a market in the U.S.

Prior to joining the Roots of Peace international team in 1997, Gary Kühn worked to support the Roots of Peace mission by providing his guidance and business acumen to encourage the growth of a small California-based NGO to its current status as an international leader in perennial horticulture development. Through Gary's leadership, Roots of Peace has continued to thrive and make a positive impact on mine-affected countries like Afghanistan, and has ultimately empowered thousands of Afghan communities through its *Demine-Replant-Rebuild* model, creating sustainable livelihoods from the ground up.

In addition to his work and Board membership at Roots of Peace, Gary volunteers for a number of non-profit boards, and lives with his wife, Heidi, and family in San Rafael, California.

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Heidi Kühn

Founder & CEO, Roots of Peace

Heidi Kühn, Founder and CEO of Roots of Peace, was deeply inspired in September 1997 to create an organization dedicated to the eradication of landmines worldwide. With a simple toast in the living room of her home that the world may go from “Mines to Vines”, a global initiative was launched from the heart of a mother of four children following the death of the late Princess Diana who catapulted the issue of landmines to the forefront of the international agenda.

Turning “ideas into reality”, Kühn sought the support of the Napa Valley vintners to replace the scourge of landmines with the nectar of grapes in war-torn countries. Seeking to transform “seeds of terror” into “seeds of hope”, Kühn attracted the support of legendary vintners such as Robert Mondavi, Mike Grgich, Diane Disney Miller, and over 400 California vintners—replacing the scourge of landmines with the nectar of fresh grapes, raisins or a fine bottle of wine. She envisions the “grapevine” as a symbol of hope—reminding global citizens of the seeds we have in common rather than those which separate us. The planting of a grapevine is a time-honored symbol of hope as generational wisdom reminds us that regardless of the political ideologies of our mind, the color of our hand or the faith in our hearts---a seed will grow when nurtured and cultivated. The planting of a landmine only yields a lethal harvest for generations to come. Her vision to transform “swords into plowshares” is grounded by transforming toxic minefields into bountiful fields creating sustainable economic programs for future generations.

Heidi is a fifth generation descendent of a Marin County family, and remains true to her roots by respecting the value of the land. Her pioneer spirit inspires her to heal the wounds of war from the ground up. Kühn’s grounded vision has been recognized by the United Nations , the U.S. State Department, former Secretaries of State Madeline Albright and Colin Powell, President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan, President Stepan Mesic of Croatia, The First Lady of Angola Ana Paula



dos Santos, The First Lady of the United States Laura Bush, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, former Vice President Al Gore, Robert Redford, Sir Ben Kingsley, and many other global dignitaries in support of her quest to “plant the roots of peace on earth.”

A graduate of the University of California at Berkeley in Political Economics of Industrial Societies, Heidi received the prestigious Cal Berkeley Alumni Award for Excellence and Achievement in 2002. At the Washington, D.C. Award Ceremony in June 2007, Heidi received the esteemed Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Award/ National Jefferson Award for Public Service. Additionally, in the twelve years since Roots of Peace was formed, Heidi has received many other awards and recognitions on both a local and international level for her vision and work creating a humanitarian organization with a mission to build “*peace from the ground up.*” Awards include, the Skoll Social Entrepreneurship Award, the WANGO World Association of Non-Governmental Award for Peace & Security, the “Walk the Talk” Award from UN World Environment Day, The Rotary International “Service Above Self” Award, the Spirit of Marin Award, Marin Women’s Hall of Fame Award, and Marin Interfaith Award. Through her dedication and leadership on the “landmine issue,” on April 30, 2007, aboard the Queen Mary 2 in New York City Harbor, Heidi Kühn accepted a formal Proclamation from the United Nations Environment Programme, officially recognizing that ***Landmines are an environmental concern.*** In 2009, Heidi Kühn and Roots of Peace were honored to join with Friends of the Bayat Foundation, uniting with policy, business, community and humanitarian leaders from across the globe in one common mission – to support the rebuilding of Afghanistan. Heidi is currently serving as Co-Chair of the Afghan Trusted Network, 2009 - 2010. Heidi has served as an Advisory Board Member for the Global Center for Social Entrepreneurship at the University of Pacific since 2007, and she received the prestigious Chancellor’s Associate Award at the University of Merced, California on December 3, 2009 for her achievements in turning dreams into reality.

Prior to her work on the landmine issue, Heidi owned her own television news organization, NewsLink International, reporting for CNN and other news organizations on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and the Melting of the Ice Curtain between US/Soviet relations. Raising her young children in Juneau, Alaska, she earned a reputation for bridging borders for peace—reporting for ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, Nippon Television and other major media organizations. Upon returning to California with her family, Heidi’s focus on humanitarian issues garnered her a Gubernatorial Appointment to the California Council of the Humanities in 1996. As a cancer survivor, she envisions the issue of landmines as a curable disease—removal.

Kühn has been married to her husband Gary for over 25 years, and they have four children.

(PHOTO: by Michael Collopy.)

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David Prettyman

International Relief and Development

Mr. Prettyman serves as Deputy Director for Sustainable Food and Agriculture Systems with International Relief & Development (IRD), based in Arlington, Virginia. From 2000-2005, Mr. Prettyman was in Indonesia as IRD's Country Director, Chief of Party, and Asia Regional Representative.

In addition to his service with IRD, Mr. Prettyman managed a Tsunami Reconstruction Program for AmeriCares (2005-2009), which included \$21 million in tsunami relief and recovery activities. He has also worked for Project Concern International, CARE, ARD, USAID, and the Peace Corps. His long- and short-term overseas postings include Papua New Guinea, India, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Zambia, Romania and Malaysia.

Mr. Prettyman holds a Masters degree in Development Management from the School of International Service at American University and a Bachelors degree in history from Davidson College. He is fluent in Bahasa Indonesia and a native speaker of English.

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Patricia R. Sheikh

**Deputy Administrator
Office of Capacity Building and Development
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Ms. Sheikh was selected as the Deputy Administrator for the Office of Capacity Building and Development in November 2006. She is the architect of USDA's Africa Strategy, and while overseeing trade policy for the Foreign Agricultural Service was the key architect of USDA's North Asia trade policy strategy. She assumed her newest position after having a distinguished career of leading the Department's efforts to resolve trade policy issues for well over a decade.

As Deputy Administrator for the Office of Capacity Building and Development, Ms. Sheikh is charged with overseeing all capacity building endeavors, including those associated with food assistance thereby employing a "holistic approach" to development. She also coordinates the Government's foreign policy objectives as they relate to capacity building endeavors. Her extensive work in agricultural affairs puts her in a unique position to implement trade and development strategies. Her work experience also includes serving as Director of the agency's Trade Policy Division for Asia and the Americas from 1993 – 1997. From 1989 - 1993, she led the Cotton Analysis Section of FAS's (then) Tobacco, Cotton and Seeds Division, focusing on China. Ms. Sheikh worked as an agricultural economist in the agency's (then) Foreign Production Estimates Division from 1983 - 1989, after having worked as an agricultural economist in the Grain and Feed Division from 1978 - 1983. From 1977 - 1978, she was an international economist in the Office of Foreign and Economic Policy in the U.S. Department of Labor.

A native of Maryland, Ms. Sheikh holds a B.A. Degree in History and Political Science and a minor in Economics from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland in Baltimore, and an M.A. Degree in International Relations from the School of Advanced International Relations in Washington, DC at Johns Hopkins University.

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James Miller

**Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural
Services
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Jim Miller is USDA's Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services. Before joining USDA, from September 2008 until he was confirmed by the U.S. Senate for this position, Miller served as chief of staff for the National Farmers Union, based in Washington, DC. He worked as the senior analyst for agriculture and trade on the U.S. Senate Budget Committee from 2004-08. From 1999-2004 he was the chief economist for the National Farmers Union.

Miller served as president of the Washington, DC-based National Association of Wheat Growers in 1987, and was its vice president for government relations from 1995-99. From 1994-95 he served as co-chair of the Canada-U.S. Joint Commission on Grains, a federal commission established to resolve grain trade issues between those two countries. For over 20 years, from 1974-95, he operated his family farm--a fourth-generation family farm---located in Garfield, WA.

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Brooke Isham, PhD

**Director, Office for Food for Peace
U.S. Agency for International Development**

Prior to assuming this position in January 2010, she was the Deputy USAID Mission Director in USAID/Sudan for two years. She has also served over ten years with USAID missions in Jordan, Russia, Central Asia, and Mali in various roles focused on overall program management, budget, and economic analysis.

Dr. Isham holds a Ph.D. and Master's degree from the Food Research Institute of Stanford University. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics, also from Stanford University.

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Joyce Cacho, PhD

**Chief Sustainability Officer
Novus International, Inc.**

Joyce Cacho joined Novus International, Inc. in January 2009 as the Chief Sustainability Officer. In this multifaceted role, Dr. Cacho is responsible for managing the planning and implementation of Novus's global Corporate Social Responsibility Program and initiatives. She works closely with Novus's Business Managers to align corporate strategies and business unit actions with Novus's Sustainability Programs.

Prior to joining Novus International, Dr. Cacho directed the Agribusiness Initiatives Program of the Corporate Council on Africa. In this role, Dr. Cacho led a new strategic area promoting U.S. private agribusiness investment in Africa, expanding CCA's membership and diversifying CCA's revenue sources. Dr. Cacho provided technical assistance to Rural Infrastructure and Market Access strategic framework of the AU-NEPAD's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Program (CAADP). In June 2008, Dr. Cacho successfully led the high-profile, profitable, U.S.-Africa Agribusiness Forum event that reflected her deep expertise in finance and value-chains in emerging industries in the U.S. and internationally.

From 2004-2007, Dr. Cacho consulted for Land O'Lakes, Rabobank International, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Her strategic market analysis contributed to attracting a \$7 million investment to transform a microfinance institution in Mozambique into a regulated financial institution. In 2003, Dr. Cacho was appointed the Global Policy Specialist for Rabobank International, managing a global team of market analysts assessing macro value-chain risks and opportunities.



Dr. Cacho holds a Doctorate in Agribusiness Finance Policy and Investment Decisions from the University of Missouri – Columbia, a Master’s in Agricultural Marketing Policy and International Trade from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), and a Bachelor’s in Economics from the University of Windsor in Ontario, Canada.

Dr. Cacho serves on the Board of Directors of Winrock International and the World Agricultural Forum. In addition, Joyce serves on the Executive Committee of the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI) Platform, the Corporate Council of the Missouri Botanical Garden; the Leadership Council of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center; and the Board of Trustees of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

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Jacques Taylor

Director of Agricultural Banking Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd.

Since 2008, Mr. Taylor has been Director of Agricultural Banking and is responsible for business banking and corporate investment banking in sixteen countries. In this capacity, he has also developed a funding solution for smallholder farmers with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa. He also developed and negotiated various initiatives with the likes of World Food Program and a risk-share facility with OPEC.

Prior to becoming Director of Agricultural Banking, Mr. Taylor was the Head of Standard Bank's Leverage / Structure Finance for the Agricultural and Commercial Segments. In this capacity, he was responsible for the Financial Services Charter and developed banking and funding solutions to support black economic empowerment in the agricultural and SME sectors in South Africa. Mr. Taylor also facilitated access to government grant funding for agricultural projects and represented the Bank on the Agricultural Working Group of the South Africa Banking Council.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Taylor was a commodities trader on the JSE and held other positions at Standard Bank of South Africa.

Mr. Taylor is a graduate of the University of South Africa with a degree in economics.

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Mark E. Keenum, PhD

**President
Mississippi State University**

Dr. Mark Everett Keenum became Mississippi State's 19th president Jan. 5, 2009, following a distinguished public service career.

After completing his bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural economics at Mississippi State, Dr. Keenum joined the university faculty in 1984 as a marketing specialist with the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service. Two years later, he accepted a position as a research associate with the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station at MSU.

He continued his education at the university, in 1988 receiving a doctorate in agricultural economics, and he joined the faculty of that department as an assistant professor/economist. During his professional tenure at Mississippi State, his primary research and extension work focused on the marketing and economics of aquaculture, specialty crops and forestry. He continued his faculty ties at the university 1997-2006 as an adjunct professor, teaching an annual course on agricultural legislative policy.

Prior to being named president of Mississippi State in November 2008, Dr. Keenum served as Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for two years, where he provided leadership and oversight for the Farm Service Agency, the Risk Management Agency and the Foreign Agricultural Service. The mission area, comprised of the three agencies, had a total operating budget of \$1.7 billion and approximately \$40 billion in program authority. The three



agencies employed more than 16,500 people at more than 2,300 offices nationwide and 98 locations around the globe.

In 1989, Dr. Keenum joined the Washington, D.C., staff of U.S. Senator Thad Cochran as Legislative Assistant for Agriculture and Natural Resources. As Sen. Cochran's advisor on agricultural affairs, he worked on numerous issues important to U.S. agriculture, including the 1990, 1996, and 2002 Farm Bills. From 1996-2006, he served as Chief of Staff for Sen. Cochran. In this role, Dr. Keenum was the chief advisor to the senator on political, legislative and appropriations issues. He also was responsible for managing all administrative and legislative functions of Sen. Cochran's Washington, D.C., office and three Mississippi offices, including direct oversight of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Dr. Keenum and his wife Rhonda have four children.

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Jeffrey Armstrong, PhD

**Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Michigan State University**

Dr. Armstrong is the Dean of Michigan State University's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and a professor in the Department of Animal Science. Previously, he was head of the Department of Animal Sciences at Purdue University and served in a number of capacities at North Carolina State University, including professor of animal science and assistant director of academic programs and director of the Agricultural Institute in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Dr. Armstrong is an internationally known researcher in the area of reproductive physiology and is active in the area of food-animal well-being. He chairs the United Egg Producers' Welfare Advisory Committee and is a member of the McDonald's Welfare Advisory Panel. Armstrong is the past president of the American Society of Animal Science.

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Ikbal R. Chowdhury

Lincoln University of Missouri

Professor Chowdhury is the Director of International Programs and has forty-two years of teaching, research, and administrative experience at university, federal, and international levels. He has served in two land grant universities, one university overseas, and two international organizations, as well as with the USDA in Washington, D.C. Working with international development for over two decades, he is familiar with many bilateral and multilateral agencies and international research organizations. Professor Chowdhury is an agronomist by training and profession and with special experience in human capacity and institutional development.

As the Director of International Programs for Lincoln University, Professor Chowdhury coordinates international research, training, and development work on several continents. He has been responsible for staff, support, budgets and services for international projects worth over thirty million dollars and serves as a liaison between Lincoln University and various international donors and stakeholders (such as USAID, USDA, FAO, NGOs and PVOs, World Bank, regional banks, academic institutions, and federal, state, and local agencies, both in the public and private sectors). Professor Chowdhury facilitates international training, development, exchanges, and recruitment, promotes faculty growth and development, and explores various international opportunities. When the Lincoln University President served on the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) with USAID (a US Presidential appointment), Professor Chowdhury advised him on international matters and assisted in writing speeches, policy and position papers as his Special Assistant International Affairs. Coordinated and escorted a BIFAD-sponsored delegation to Morocco, Kenya, Rwanda, and Burundi. On invitation from the President of Malawi/Africa, he planned and led an official presidential visit from Missouri to Malawi.

Professor Chowdhury developed and/or managed projects for many federal agencies, including USAID, USDA, USIA/ Fulbright, NASA, EPA, TVA, NIH, FDA, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Departments of the Interior, Energy, and Plant Protection, the Atomic Energy Commission, most land grant institutions and many major U.S., Canadian and European universities; and universities in developing countries. Led USAID/USDA/FAO-sponsored high-level delegations from Portugal, India, and the Philippines to the United States, and served as the USDA's technical team leader. Planned and conducted a USDA sponsored workshop in Washington, DC involving scientists from various nations. As an International Training Administrator with USDA, successfully planned and executed over 200 international training/research projects funded by



USAID, USDA, USIA, FAO, UNDP, NATO, World Bank, and various governments. Conducted many overseas seminars on agricultural technical assistance in and from the U.S. and served as a consultant to the Bureau of Land Management/Department of the Interior on developing college-level training for minorities and women in natural resources management disciplines. Supervised the participant-training component of the USAID's Rwanda Farming System Research Project. Developed, won and managed the Worldwide General Agricultural Training Projects (GATP) for USAID for seventeen southeastern states, worth \$18 million dollars. Coordinated and administered two USDA-offered courses on "Seed Improvement" with Mississippi State University and "Post Harvest Food Loss Reduction" with Cornell University and the University of Idaho for various international clients. Represented USDA and various universities in national forums and has presented papers at state, national, and international levels.

As a professional, received the meritorious service awards from the Governor of Missouri and the Jaycees. Also received a national award, and a university award as an outstanding student of the year. While have served on several national boards and panels and also was a Member of the Board of Directors for the IPM/CRSP, a \$20 million USAID initiative. Worked collaboratively with IARC's and NARS's on IPM. Has been a member of the Board of Trustees and its Chair for the Southeast Consortium for International Development (SECID), one of the largest university-led international development consortiums of the country. Has served twice as the leader of the North Central International Agriculture Director's Association (NCIADA) and has served as the chair for the National Awards Committee for the Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD). As one of a select group of national panelists for USAID and USIA, evaluated, screened, selected, and recommended proposals for the University Linkage Grants involving U.S. institutions and universities worldwide. As a consultant to a private sector firm, advised and provided logistical input to secure an anti-cancer phyto-chemical internationally. Regularly liaise with the congressional leaders and their staff, on policy issues and budgetary matters, promoting institutional, state, national, international, and Land Grant University causes, including the interest of US agriculture. Also on a regular basis, communicate with high level federal and state officials, state legislators, members of the donor communities, PVOs, NGOs, Chambers of Commerce, private sector firms, and other interested parties as necessary.

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Walter A. Hill, PhD

Tuskegee University

Dr. Hill is a Professor of Agricultural and Environmental Chemistry; Dean, College of Agricultural, Environmental and Natural Sciences and Director of the George Washington Carver Agricultural Experiment Station at Tuskegee University. He is currently Chair of the State Committee of the USDA Farm Service Agency in Alabama and Co-Director for the Tuskegee - NSF Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Project. His research and education activities include: K-16-PhD science education of underrepresented minorities; plant-environmental and advanced life support systems; and sustainability of small farms and rural communities in the southern Black Belt.

Board directorships have included: Board on International Food and Agricultural Development, USAID; USDA National Research, Education and Extension Advisory Board; American Distance Education Consortium; Black Belt Community Foundation; and Lake Forest College. He has served as Chair of the Professional Agricultural Workers Conference, and Director of the NASA-sponsored Center for Food and Environmental Systems for Human Exploration of Space; the W.K. Kellogg Foundation-sponsored Southern Food Systems Education Consortium; and the USDA-sponsored Strategic Alliance for Biotechnology Research and Sub-Saharan African Development. His activities in partnership with others have included development projects in ten African countries. Dr. Hill is also co-founder of the Integrative Biosciences PhD program at Tuskegee University, the Alabama Agricultural Land Grant Alliance, and the Alabama Black Belt Fruit and Vegetable Market Center.

Dr. Hill received a B.A. in Chemistry from Lake Forest College, M.A.T. in Chemistry from the University of Chicago, M.S. in Soil Chemistry from the University of Arizona and a Ph.D. in Agronomy and Environmental Chemistry from the University of Illinois.

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Ertharin Cousin

**U.S. Ambassador
Agencies for Food and Agriculture
United Nations Rome**

Ambassador Ertharin Cousin was nominated by President Barack Obama on June 19, 2009 to be U.S. Representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture. Ms. Cousin was confirmed by the Senate on August 7, 2009 and sworn in as Ambassador on August 17, 2009.

Ms. Cousin has more than twenty-five years of national and international corporate, non-profit, and government leadership experience, and immediately prior to this appointment was President of The Polk Street Group, a national public affairs firm located in Chicago, Illinois.

Ms. Cousin previously served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Feeding America (then known as America's Second Harvest), the nation's largest domestic hunger organization. Among her key achievements during this period was leading the organization's response to Hurricane Katrina, an effort which resulted in the distribution of more than 62 million pounds of food to those in need across the Gulf Coast region of the United States.

Ms. Cousin also has significant background in the retail food sector, including as Senior Vice President of Albertsons Foods and Vice-President for Government and Community Affairs for Jewel Food stores. While working for Albertsons, she also served as President and Chair of the company's corporate foundation, managing the organization's philanthropic activities.



Ms. Cousin worked for the Clinton Administration for four years, including as Deputy Chief of Staff for the Democratic National Committee and White House Liaison at the State Department. In 1997 she received a White House appointment to the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development.

Ms. Cousin is a native of Chicago and a graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Georgia School of Law.

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John Brewer

**Administrator
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

John Brewer is Administrator of USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). Prior to his appointment as Administrator in January 2010, John served as Associate Administrator/General Sales Manager in the agency.

From 2008-2009, he worked at the consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton where he was an Associate on the Global Security/Threat Finance Team. While at Booz Allen, John worked on a variety of intelligence and finance-related projects for firm clients, including the Departments of Defense, Justice, Homeland Security, Treasury, and private-sector financial institutions such as Bank of America and Wachovia. John also served two years as a Senior Analyst in the Office of Global Risk Assessments at the American International Group (AIG) where he was responsible for providing analysis on business risks and global threats (i.e., terrorism, political and economic crises) that could impact AIG's businesses in Latin America, Eastern Europe, India, Africa and the Middle East. He served as Assistant Editor for the Executive Briefing Book (EBB), a strategic analysis of global risk provided to the CEOs and risk managers of leading AIG customers and led the working group that developed the company's Threat Assessment Center (TAC) which received, validated, and distributed information regarding a threat or incident involving any AIG facility worldwide.

In addition to his private sector experience, John brings to FAS more than a decade of experience in the Federal Government. During his government career, he served in the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence & Research, the Pentagon's Office of Counter-narcotics, and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) in the Treasury Department. His areas of expertise include U.S. policy toward Latin America and the Caribbean, counter-narcotics policy, and anti-



money laundering/counter terrorist financing programs. His regional experience includes Western Hemisphere, Africa, and the Middle East.

John holds Bachelor degrees in History and English from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, and a Master's in Diplomatic History from the London School of Economics and Political Science in the United Kingdom. His hometown is Florence, South Carolina.

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Abed Ayoub

Chief Executive Officer Islamic Relief USA

Ayoub comes from a strong management background with 17 years of experience in both the non-profit and for-profit sectors. He holds an executive MBA and has served in a variety of administrative positions during his professional career. Under Ayoub's leadership, Islamic Relief USA's revenue increased from \$76 million in 2008 to \$147 million in 2009.

As a Governance Committee Member of Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW), Ayoub monitors the present performance of IRW and plans future aims and priorities for the international organization. He is also the Chairman of IRW's 5-year strategic plan.

Currently, Ayoub serves on the executive board of many local and international non-profit organizations. He is a founding partner of the Center for Interfaith Action, a coalition of faith organizations working collectively to reduce global poverty and disease. In April 2010, Ayoub was appointed to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA). Along with other leaders in the international development field, Ayoub provides advice, analysis and recommendations to USAID on the most pressing development issues in the world today.

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Sean Callahan

**Executive Vice President
Overseas Operations
Catholic Relief Services**

As the Vice President for Overseas Operations, Sean Callahan is responsible for the oversight of programmatic activities in more than 90 countries, with a budget of over \$500 million and a staff of over 3,500. He ensures the fulfillment of the agency's mission while particularly focusing on assistance to the poor, respect for human dignity, justice and peace and partnership with local institutions.

Mr. Callahan was the Regional Director for South Asia from January 1998 to May 2004. His priority responsibilities included overseeing CRS operations in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. Mr. Callahan has previous experience working in India, as the Representative of the CRS program in Eastern India/Kolkata (1994-1996). During his tenure in Kolkata, Mr. Callahan managed operations in Eastern India, including a USAID/CRS Title II food program and a child survival program in Patna, Bihar.

Mr. Callahan has had a wide variety of experiences in South Asia, including representing CRS at the Asian Bishops Synod in 1998; working closely with Mother Teresa of the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta; responding to flood, drought, earthquake and man-made emergencies; experiencing a terrorist attack by the LTTE (Tamil Tigers) in the Sri Lankan airport; and facilitating programming in Afghanistan during and after the Taliban.

Immediately prior to his assignment as the South Asia Regional Director, he was the Director of Human Resources for CRS at its world headquarters in Baltimore. Mr. Callahan has served as the



Director of the CRS/Nicaragua Program and worked in Central America in varying capacities, in addition to earlier work in headquarters as the public donor liaison for West, Central and Southern Africa.

Mr. Callahan holds a B.A. in Spanish from Tufts University and an M.A. in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

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Timi Gerson

**Director of Advocacy
American Jewish World Service**

Timi Gerson is an “Inside the Beltway” native, with more than a decade of experience on foreign policy and international development issues. As Director of Advocacy for American Jewish World Service, she leads the organization’s Washington, DC policy office on issues ranging from foreign assistance reform and international debt relief to human rights and global food security. Prior to AJWS, Gerson was a vice president at Fenton Communications where she built a new Latin America practice area and client base in addition to providing strategic consulting to domestic advocacy campaigns around the Iraq war, health care reform and civil rights.

Gerson started her career in the global justice movement organizing legislative campaigns for fair U.S. trade policy as field director for Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch. A fluent Spanish speaker, Gerson has lived and worked with women’s and human rights groups in Colombia and Central America. She is a Jewish Funds for Justice Selah Leadership Program graduate and holds a B.A. in Women’s Studies from Earlham College.

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Judy Canahuati

**Technical Advisor
HIV, Maternal, and Child Nutrition
U.S. Agency for International Development**

Ms. Canahuati has worked for more than 30 years in supporting maternal, child nutrition, and health programs in over twenty countries in Latin America, Asia, and Africa, working with non-governmental organizations, governments, and international organizations.

Ms. Canahuati began her professional career as outreach coordinator for the first mobile-unit family planning project on the continental U.S. and went on to support the national breastfeeding program in Honduras. Ms. Canahuati worked as the Senior Technical Advisor to the Wellstart Expanded Promotion of Breastfeeding Program. For several years, she directed the largest bilingual school in Central America, in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Returning to the US to live in 2001, Ms. Canahuati worked with the CARE Health, Emergency, Food and HIV units.

For the last seven years, she has been working with USAID's Food for Peace office focusing on HIV and maternal and child nutrition and new food products. She is also the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) on a USAID contract with Tufts University School of Nutrition to carry out a review of the Nutritional Quality of Food Aid Commodities.

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Abdulkadir A Egal, PhD

**Senior Research Fellow
Institute of Sustainable Livelihoods
Vaal University of Technology**

Dr. Abdulkadir Egal obtained his PhD in public health nutrition from joint Madison University in the USA in 2004 and McGill in Canada. He is a Senior Research Fellow in the Institute of Sustainable Livelihoods (ISL) at the Vaal University of Technology. His research interests are child growth and malnutrition, specifically focusing on micronutrient deficiencies. He has presented at various national and international conferences and authored and/or co-authored 13 articles published in scientific journals and as part of conference proceedings.

Employed by USAID projects in Somalia as Deputy Project manager (1981- 1986) through two projects (Ground water & Range).

Dr. Egal was previously employed by the United Nations World Food Programme as a Programme Officer, 1986 – 1997.

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Hiram Larew, PhD

**Director, International Programs
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Dr. Larew oversees an office within USDA's new National Institute of Food and Agriculture which promotes international agricultural programs at American universities and colleges. He has previously served as an agriculture and higher education policy advisor at USAID, and as a research scientist at USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

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Patrick Webb, PhD

**Dean for Academic Affairs
Tufts University**

Patrick Webb is Dean for Academic Affairs, and Alexander MacFarlane Professor of Public Policy, at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts. He is co-principle investigator of the USAID-supported Food Aid Quality Review

Dr. Webb worked for several years as Chief of Nutrition for the World Food Programme (WFP). While at WFP, he helped build a nutrition department with global responsibilities for emergency food interventions, overseeing maternal and child programs in 30 developing countries, and elaborating policies and procedures for micronutrient fortification of food aid. He worked on inter-agency coordination and policy harmonization, including service on the Hunger Task Force of the Millennium Project.

Earlier in his career, Dr. Webb spent 9 years with the International Food Policy Research Institute, stationed most of that time in Ethiopia, Niger, and The Gambia, working with national officials on food and agricultural policy, and famine relief. He has researched many aspects of malnutrition, household food security, agricultural policy, and humanitarian practice. He currently focuses on nutrition-disease interactions (including in HIV programming), the role of the private sector in supporting emergency relief, and methodological challenges in measuring diet quality.

His co-authored book on *Famine in Africa* (published by Johns Hopkins University Press in 1999), sold out of its first edition and went into a second run. Other publications include 20 book chapters and almost 50 peer-reviewed journal articles.

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Mark Jones

**Commodity Program Specialist
Commodity Operations
Farm Service Agency
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Mark Jones joined the Farm Service Agency in 2004, where he serves as a Commodity Program Specialist in the Contract Reconciliation Division of the Kansas City Commodity Office within Commodity Operations. His primary responsibility is the determination and resolution of marine losses associated with commodity shipments overseas.

Prior to working with USDA, Mr. Jones spent 24 years overseas, serving first as a Peace Corps volunteer in Zaire. This experience inspired him to continue serving overseas, where he joined Catholic Relief Services, which included assignments in Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Togo, Cameroon, Russia, Albania and Madagascar.

Mr. Jones has extensive experience in project development and implementation, staff development, commodity logistics, monetization and emergency response. He is fluent in French and Creole and proficient in Russian. He holds a BA degree from Kansas State University.

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Graham Fogg

**Vice President
Agricultural Services North America
Intertek USA Inc.**

Graham Fogg is the Vice President of Intertek USA Inc. responsible for the Agricultural Services in North America. Graham started his career with Intertek in April 2009 after 13 years with SGS holding various positions in the USA, Geneva and Uzbekistan. Prior to working with SGS, Graham started his career with Cargill UK in their Cotton division as a Trader for 10 years.

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Keith Powell

**President
Potomac Maritime LLC**

H. Keith Powell has offices in Washington, DC and Houston, Texas. Potomac acts as ship and cargo brokers for a variety of clients including several of the leading US flag Carriers participating in the transportation of US Government sponsored food assistance programs.

After graduating from the George Washington University in 1982 with a BA in International Business, Keith worked for Universal Shipping until founding Potomac Marine International Inc. in 1987 and later Potomac Maritime LLC in 1997. Keith has been involved in many aspects of the food aid industry over the years, including a leadership role in the Ocean Transportation Subcommittee from 2002 to 2004 which drafted the current U.S. Food Aid Booking Note contract which is the used for all packaged cargo being shipped under U.S. Government food aid programs.

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Bill Rase

**Director of Operations
Port of Lake Charles, Louisiana**

Mr. Rase has over 30 years of port and cargo management experience. He graduated in 1971 with a B. A. degree in Marketing from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, La.

After serving in a number of public port and private sector administrative positions at a variety of ports and companies, Mr. Rase was appointed, in 2002, Director of Operations for the Port of Lake Charles. Mr. Rase has been personally responsible for revamping several key operating agreements and securing several new cargo operations- both of which substantially increased the economic well being of the Port and the area.

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Patrick M. Dardis

**Deputy Director and
Head of Contracting Activity Designee (HCAD)
Kansas City Commodity Office
Farm Service Agency
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Appointed by the Farm Service Agency Administrator, Patrick provides leadership and direction for KCCO Contracting officers and other members of the acquisition workforce. He establishes policies, procedures, and practices to supplement the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and Agriculture Acquisition Regulations (AGAR). He also appoints qualified employees as FAR warranted contracting officers for purchases of agricultural commodities and commodity-related services, for use in various domestic and international feeding programs.

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Zaheer Baber

**Regional Director
Asia, Middle East, Latin America And Eastern Europe**

Land O'Lakes, Inc.

Mr. Baber currently serves as Regional Director for Asia, Middle East, Latin America and Eastern Europe. He has the overall responsibilities of managing the projects in Albania, Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Iraq, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Kosovo. Mr. Baber also provides leadership to the Practice Area of Food Systems and Safety.

Mr. Baber has been with Land O'Lakes, Inc. for 24+ years and has served in many positions which include Director of Operations, Engineering & Technical Services-Dairy Foods Division; Director of Supply Chain-Meats Group; Plant Manager at Aitkin & Thief River Falls, MN-Ellsworth, Iowa; Executive Vice President and General Manager, Morey's Seafood International- Detroit, MI; Vice President Operations, Dietrich's Milk Product, LLC-Reading, PA.

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Stephen M. Moody, MS

**Senior Advisor for Food Technology
Policy and Technical Division
Office of Food for Peace
U.S. Agency for International Development**

Stephen M. Moody is the Senior Advisor for Food Technology assigned to the Policy and Technical Division of the USAID Office of Food for Peace. He provides the agency with advice on formulation, development, processing, and packaging technologies for new and existing food products for humanitarian assistance and emergency feeding programs. He also assists with the development of technical requirements for the procurement and evaluation of those products.

In his previous position at the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research Development & Engineering Center, he led a diverse group of scientists and engineers involved in the development and improvement of military rations for the U.S. Department of Defense. Stephen retired from active duty in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps after 24 years of service. Among his many positions was that of Food Safety Officer for the U.S. Army Central Command in the Persian Gulf where he was responsible for the inspection and approval of local sources for food and bottled water in East Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia.

He received a MS in Food Science from Kansas State University in 2000. Stephen is a member of the Institute of Food Technologists, a senior member of the American Society for Quality, and holds dual certifications as an ASQ Certified Quality Auditor and ASQ Certified Quality Engineer.

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Bertrand Salvignol

Food Technologist World Food Programme

Mr. Salvignol is a food technologist with more than 13 years of field experience in food processing, food engineering, and food safety and quality. He holds a Food Engineer diploma from the University of Lille, France and a MSC in Public Health Nutrition from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. He is currently heading the Food Quality and Safety Unit in the procurement division of WFP.

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Obaid Ahmad

**President
Euro-America Shipping & Trade, Inc.**

Mr. Ahmad has almost twenty years experience in the food aid transportation industry. He is currently President of Euro-America Shipping & Trade, Inc., a Washington D.C. based shipping brokerage firm established in 1979. Euro-America's primary activities include representing both U.S. flag and non-U.S. flag vessel owners in Washington, DC, participating in the humanitarian food aid programs. In his role, Mr. Ahmad works closely with the USAID, USDA, and the Maritime Administration, as well as numerous PVOs and their forwarders. Furthermore, in the last ten years, Mr. Ahmad has been able to grow and expand the company into the commercial and project cargo markets to the Middle East, Africa, Far East and Latin America. Mr. Ahmad has travelled extensively internationally with a focus on the Middle East and Southwest Asian markets over the last few years.

Mr. Ahmad is a member of the Association of Ship Brokers and Agents, and the Propeller Club of Washington, D.C. He has also routinely served on various committees organized by USAID and USDA to improve different aspects of the humanitarian food aid transportation programs.

Mr. Ahmad graduated from The George Washington University with a Bachelor's in Business Administration degree, with a concentration in Finance. He went on to obtain his Master's in Business Administration degree, with a concentration in International Business from GWU as well. Mr. Ahmad currently lives in Potomac, Maryland with his wife, Saima, and three children.

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Muna Bayou

**Resource Management Analyst
U.S. Agency for International Development/Ethiopia
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Currently performing as a Resource Management Analyst, since October 2001, Ms. Bayou has been managing USG Food Aid Resources that range from \$270 million up to \$450 million. She accounts for USG food contributions, including loss and claim reports of USG food contributions, and provides recommendations and guidance on proper food management, program resources, logistics, regulations to USAID partner organizations, and advises on issues of Title II DRP program implementation and monetization tendering process.

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Mike Bural

Trans-NET, Inc.

Mike is an executive with Trans-NET, Inc., in Seattle, Washington, a vessel agent for Mediterranean Shipping Company of Geneva, Switzerland. Mike's entire career is invested in the maritime industry, starting in 1969 with Sea-Land Service, and including positions in sales, marketing, operations, and general management in both domestic off-shore and worldwide international trades.

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Allister Clewlow

**Head of Food Programs
Samaritan's Purse International**

Allister is the senior global advisor to Samaritan's Purse International on food program design and operation. Based in London, Allister works within the Program Development Division to assist the organizations 25 country offices and affiliates in major food partner relationships, and in the development of organizational food program capacity building and training systems. Allister has taken part in a number of USAID/ USDA international food standards training programs, is editor of the Samaritan's Purse Food Training manual, and recently has been a member of the core working group for the Food and Nutrition Chapter of the new revision of the "SPHERE Standards".

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Jack Fong

**President and Owner
Missionary Expeditors**

Jack has been president-owner of MX for 26 years and before that had 12 years experience in international supply chain logistics with the United Fruit Company, Conrail, and Booz Allen & Hamilton. MX is a leading forwarder in humanitarian aid shipments. For thousands of containers going to non-repetitive destinations, MX provides customized counsel and routings. For U.S. Government food aid cargoes, MX has executed the full slate of shipments, packaged and bulk cargoes, liner services and charter parties, onward carriage contracts, monetized and free distribution cargoes.

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Jeff Kahn

**Attorney
Office of General Counsel
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Jeff has been an attorney with the USDA Office of the General Counsel, in the International Affairs and Commodity Programs Division, since 1980. In addition to admiralty cargo claims and food aid programs, he handles the sugar and dairy programs and the trade adjustment assistance program.

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François L. Meynot

**Senior Partner and the Managing Partner
MB & Associés
Djibouti**

François Louis Meynot is an Attorney at Law registered at the Paris Bar as well as one of the Board Members of *La Société Djiboutienne du Terminal Vraquier FZE (SDTV FZE)*. He is a Senior Partner and the Managing Partner of MB & Associés, a French Firm specialized in Mergers & Acquisitions, International, Corporate and Tax Laws. During the last 35 years, François has worked with various African and Middle Eastern countries and is a lecturer at the Law School of the University of Montpellier. He has been present in Djibouti for the last 12 years and is very active in the field of the Port Operations.

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Mike Riby-Smith

**Business Development Manager, Africa
Intertek Oil, Chemical & Agri-Durban, South Africa**

Mike has been involved in the Inspection and Testing Services industry for over 30 years. During this time he has been responsible for operations throughout Africa and has experience in various commodities shipped into and out of the continent. For the last 10 years he has provided a Global Coordination Service in respect of Inspection and Testing of Food Aid shipments for various Government Agencies and Private Voluntary Organisations.

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Paul Vicinanza

**Office of Acquisition and Assistance
U.S. Agency for International Development**

Paul has more than 15 years of experience in the commercial shipping industry, including vessel operations intermodal services and sales/marketing. For the last 6 years he has been with USAID in Washington, DC, responsible for vessel operations, chartering, special projects, preposition warehousing and contracting.

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Christian Foster

**Deputy Administrator
Office of Trade Programs
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Christian Foster is the Deputy Administrator for the Office of Trade Programs in the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). Prior to this appointment, Mr. Foster served as the Assistant Deputy Administrator for the Office of Capacity Building and Development in FAS, where he focused on helping transform fragile and transition economies into viable two-way trading markets for food and agricultural products. He was Chief of FAS's Trade and Investment Program Branch from 1999-2002.

From 1997-99, Mr. Foster was based in Washington, DC on a detail from FAS to the U.S. Agency for International Development, where he served as a senior advisor on agriculture, following the collapse of the Soviet Union. He was Chief of the [then] New Independent States and Baltics Section in the Economic Research Service from 1992-97. From 1990-92 he was based in Brussels, Belgium with the [then] Bell Atlantic Corporation, where he served as the Director for Business Development for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. He worked from 1984-90 as an agricultural economist in the USDA's Economic Research Service, focusing on the 'Centrally Planned Economies' of Eurasia. From 1982-84 he was based in Arlington, VA, where he began his federal career as an economist for the Defense Intelligence Agency, focusing on the economies of Eastern Europe.

Mr. Foster earned a Master of Arts from Georgetown University in 1982 and a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University in 1980.

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Paul Burke

**Director of Marketing & Industry Relations
U.S. Soybean Export Council**

Mr. Burke has over twenty years experience in developing export markets for U.S. food and agriculture products. Currently, he serves as the Director of Marketing & Industry Relations for the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC), based in St. Louis, Missouri. He is involved with managing the council's participation in export market development initiatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the United Soybean Board. Mr. Burke and his staff also manage marketing and promotion activities that USSEC conducts in the United States. In addition, he is responsible for USSEC activities and outreach aimed at firms and organizations within the U.S. soybean industry.

Prior to his career with the U.S. Soybean Export Council, Mr. Burke served as the director of international marketing in both the Michigan and Missouri Departments of Agriculture and international sales manager for Bolinger Marketing, Inc. His accomplishments include receiving the Michigan Department of Agriculture Directors Award in 2002 and publishing Targeting Your International Career: An Undergraduate Guide to International Career Development.

Mr. Burke graduated with a bachelor's degree in International Relations and History from Michigan State University. He also attended the Mandarin Training Center in Taipei, Taiwan.

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John Toaspern

Vice President for International Marketing U.S. Potato Board

John Toaspern holds a Master's degree from the Food Research Institute at Stanford University and a Bachelor's degree in International Economics from Stanford University. After working as a Peace Corps volunteer with the Grenada Industrial Development Corporation, he had a varied career at the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). During his 13 years at FAS, Mr. Toaspern served as the U.S. Agricultural Attaché in Côte d'Ivoire, worked as both a Marketing Specialist and Analyst in the Horticultural and Tropical Products Division, and directed domestic outreach in the Rocky Mountain Region.

In John's position as Vice President for International Marketing, he works to promote U.S. potatoes and potato products in more than 20 commercial markets in Asia and Latin America. In addition, Mr. Toaspern oversees and coordinates all international programming with industry and other partners, including the U.S. Potato Board's International Food Aid Initiative (IFAI).

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Alan Tracy

**President
U.S. Wheat Associates**

As President of U.S. Wheat Associates, Mr. Tracy directs the organization's global export market development program, striving to increase wheat consumption and U.S. market share for all classes of U.S. wheat in more than 100 countries.

Mr. Tracy came to U.S. Wheat Associates in 1997, after serving for seven years as the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Before that, from 1986 to 1989, he worked in the White House as Special Assistant to the President for Agricultural Trade and Food Assistance. Beginning his distinguished agricultural policy career, he held several positions at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, including Deputy Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Inspection Services, Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs and Commodity Programs, and General Sales Manager.

In 1995-96, Mr. Tracy was President of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture. The two years prior, he was President of the Mid-America International Agri-Trade Council. He also helped organize, and served as the charter chairman, of the New Uses Council, a national association that promotes new nonfood, nonfeed uses of agricultural products.

From 1970 to 1981, Mr. Tracy worked in his family's farming business in Wisconsin, growing hybrid seed corn and raising hogs and cattle. He was President of the business from 1976 to 1981.

Mr. Tracy holds a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University and a master's degree in International Business from the University of Wisconsin. [Return to top](#)



Jennifer Schmidt

**Senior Manager
FINCA International**

Jennifer Schmidt, Senior Manager for FINCA International, leads a new business development team that liaises and builds partnerships with various donor governments, multi-lateral development banks, and foundations. The result of these efforts is the development and financial support of programs in 21 countries that help FINCA attain its mission, provide for the unmet financial needs of the entrepreneurial poor, many of whom are women, so that they can create jobs, build assets and improve their standard of living.

Jennifer has her master's degree from American University and has been working in international development for 15 years.

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Mark E. Chiaviello

**Director
Corporate and Investment Banking
Standard Bank of South Africa**

Mr. Chiaviello has been involved in Africa for over 25 years. He is currently a Director at Standard Bank, Africa's largest financial institution, with the responsibility of promoting foreign direct investment, trading relationships and donor flows from the United States into Africa.

Prior to joining Standard Bank in 2006, Mr. Chiaviello spent 9 years at Deutsche Bank running their South African equity business in America. In 2007, The United Nations Development Programme appointed Mr. Chiaviello to their Advisory Board for the Regional Programme for Africa. Mr. Chiaviello was elected to the Board of Directors of The Corporate Council on Africa in 2008. Mr. Chiaviello was a member of the United States Export – Import Bank's Sub-advisory Committee on Sub-Sahara Africa in 2007 & 2008. In the 1980s, Mr. Chiaviello spent over 2 years as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Botswana where he worked with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Mr. Chiaviello received an MBA in International Finance from Columbia Business School in New York in 1993.

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Daniel J. Brose

**Senior Program Advisor
World Relief International**

Dan Brose is Senior Program Advisor for World Relief International. Mr. Brose is currently based out of east Africa and provides technical and management support to World Relief's programs across Africa and Asia. He previously served with World Relief in Rwanda, Burundi, and D.R. Congo where he was Country Director and Regional Director.

Mr. Brose received his BS in Chemical Engineering at Oregon State University, followed by an MS in Chemical Engineering at Stanford University. In 1992, Brose founded Chemica Technologies (Beaverton, OR) – a pharmaceutical research company that develops innovative medical and pharmaceutical products.

In 2001, Brose joined World Relief and was assigned to central Africa where he was born and lived much of his childhood. From 2001 to 2007 he served with World Relief in Rwanda, Burundi, and D.R. Congo – leading World Relief's efforts to bring life-saving assistance to victims of war, poverty, and HIV/AIDS. Under Brose's leadership, World Relief's activities grew from one country program in Rwanda to significant country programs in Rwanda, Burundi, and D.R. Congo; microfinance institutions were grown and launched in Rwanda, Burundi, and D.R. Congo; and Ikirezi Natural Products, SA was launched in Rwanda to pioneer the sustainable production of high quality essential oils to benefit poor rural farmers. Brose has been involved in several food assistance programs, including a partnership with CRS Rwanda to provide U.S. food to people living with HIV/AIDS; and food security projects in the North Kivu region of D.R. Congo, in southern Sudan, and in the Darfur region of Sudan.

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Oladimeji Owofemi

Executive Vice Chairman Multi –Trex Integrated Foods, Plc

‘Dimeji began his industry experience with Nigeria’s premier cocoa factory; Cocoa Industries Limited, Ikeja, Lagos in July 1985 as a Management Accountant.

By August 1988, he joined Egun Nigeria Limited, a private cocoa processing company in Nigeria where he held several challenging positions; the last of which was the Executive Director Marketing and Administration. In 1993, he went into active export of Cocoa beans and Cocoa products trading and consultancy in cocoa and related matters.

He birthed his own company (Multi-Trex) in 1999, first, as a cocoa export merchant and by year 2005, veered into cocoa processing. The company which became quoted as a Public Liability Company in 2009 is a 65,000 metric ton capacity and one of Nigeria’s largest exporters of cocoa butter, cocoa cake and cocoa powder to United Kingdom and Europe. Amongst Multi –Trex trading partners are Armajaro UK Limited and Indcresa, Spain.

To date, ‘Dimeji has about 25 year’s industry experience.

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Stephanie Grunenfelder

**Vice-President of International Marketing
American Peanut Council**

Stephanie has been at the Council since August of 2006. She supervises export marketing programs on behalf of the peanut industry in Canada, Mexico and Japan and also manages the industry's Peanut Butter for Hungry Initiative, which began in 2007. Peanut Butter for the Hungry is an initiative of the commercial peanut industry in the United States (growers, shellers, manufacturers and allied industry members) to help malnourished children in places where resources are limited. Before joining the Council, Stephanie was the Director of Nutrition Research and Education for the Mushroom Council and Director of Marketing for the Florida Tomato Committee, both agricultural trade associations.

Stephanie has a master's degree in Nutrition Education and completed the University of Florida's Leadership Program for Agriculture and Natural Resources in 1999. She grew up on a soybean and corn farm in Indiana. Stephanie and her husband Brian have three children and live in Virginia.

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Bridget C. Owen

**Associate Director
National Soybean research Laboratory
University of Illinois, at Urbana-Champaign, IL**

Bridget Owen serves as the Associate Director for the National Soybean Research Laboratory (NSRL) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Owen directs soybean research, outreach and education efforts from production to consumption. She works to have the University and industry stakeholders create alliances aimed at finding solutions to the evolving technological and marketing conditions of the soybean industry.

She also addresses international soybean endeavors that deal with malnutrition, economic development and sustainability. NSRL international programs are in five primary categories: school lunch nutrition, early childhood nutrition, HIV/AIDs nutrition, microenterprise development, and women and girls empowerment. Countries involved range from Cambodia and Vietnam, to the Dominican Republic and Honduras, to Indonesia, Kenya, Botswana, and Haiti.

Owen received her MBA from Lindenwood University and previously, Owen worked as the Senior Marketing Manager at the United States Soybean Export Council. Her previous responsibilities encompassed grain merchandising, food additives, product line development and export strategy management. She was instrumental in coordinating partnerships and collaborations with soy stakeholders involved in aquaculture programs.

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Joan Parker, PhD

Senior Advisor

U.S. Dairy Export Council

Joan Parker is a development economist with 20 years experience in private sector engagement in developing countries. She has worked with entrepreneurs, policy makers, donors, international corporations, and not-for-profit organizations in sectors ranging from agriculture to finance to health. Following 14 years in technical and executive roles with USAID contractor, Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI), Dr. Parker has primarily worked on social innovation in the corporate sector. She currently serves as senior advisor to US Dairy Export Council and the dairy industry, focusing on dairy ingredients essential in the fight against global malnutrition. She holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University and lives in Washington, D.C.

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Keith Adams

Division Chief, Program Operations Division Office of Food for Peace U.S. Agency for International Development

Keith Adams is a Division Chief in the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Food for Peace (FFP). He leads the Program Operations Division, which is responsible for all commodity, ocean freight procurement-related activities, and budget and finance-related activities associated with the U.S. Government's largest food assistance program. He oversees participation in numerous consultative working groups on behalf of the Office of Food for Peace and is the primary point of contact with other U.S. government agencies, cooperating sponsors, and commodity and freight related interest organizations.

Previously, he worked as a Financial Specialist with U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for the strategic planning arm of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, assisting small businesses nationwide. He accepted that position after three years with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service where he helped non-profit cooperators, state governments, U.S. agricultural organizations and private companies under several federally funded export assistance programs. Before that, he was with the U.S. Postal Service where he began as a letter carrier and held increasingly important positions during his nearly twenty year postal career including Regional Acquisition Sales Manager, Tactical Marketing Team Leader, Customer Advocate Coordinator of the Washington DC Post Office, as well as Account Representative and Manager of Customer Services.

Mr. Adams has worked with and is a member of numerous industry trade groups, including the Association of National Advertisers and the Direct Marketing Association. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, West Virginia and received his Master of Science degree in Marketing from the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland.

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Beth Sheehy

**Senior Representative
Planet Aid**

Beth Sheehy is a Senior Representative for Planet Aid. In this role, Beth works with the Office of Partnership in the management and representation of United States Department of Agriculture Food Aid Commodity Programs in Mozambique and Malawi and in the development and representation of current and future programs and events with USAID and other US and multilateral development organizations.

Beth served as External Affairs and New Business Manager for Land O'Lakes International Development Division, as legislative coordinator for the Overseas Cooperative Development Council and is a former Peace Corps volunteer in Kazakhstan.

Beth completed her BA at Miami University (OH) and her MBA at George Mason University.

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