

GARY C. BARRETT
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EXPERIENCE

Senior Advisor/ Acting Deputy Director

October 2017 – Present

USDA Forest Service National Partnership Office and Homeland Security, Washington, DC.

Provides technical and administrative expertise to the Senior Forest Service leadership and operational units on partnership opportunities, guidelines, and authorities, which guides US Forest Service domestic and international activities and services in land management, restoration, and conservation. Provides guidance and direction on continuity of operations activities for the agency and liaises with the Department of Agriculture on Agency-wide security issues.

Accomplishments:

- Served 10 - months as the Acting Deputy Director.
- Provides expert advice and strategic input to the Director and other Senior-level officials on national and department-wide programs.
- Serves as the Forest Service Representative on the USDA Secretary's Task Force on Rural Prosperity and Engagement looking at land management and equity issues for rural farmers and landowners.
- Serves as an expert advisor and liaison to agency's human resource staff and coordinated hiring actions.
- Coordinates with the Grants and Agreements staff to streamline the national process for Forest Service units to enter relationships with the private sector to provide mutual benefit for the US government and private companies.
- Develops and fosters coalitions through the management of strategic relationship with Forest Service high impact global partners, such as, Coca Cola, the National Forest Foundation, Filson, and Starbucks.
- Serves as the alternate agency representative for the Forest Service Director of Homeland Security.
- Coordinates with the USDA Office of Security to develop Agency plans to maintain operations during emergency, disaster, and crisis events.
- Assists in developing the National Continuity of Operations Plan for the Forest Service Mission Essential Functions (Law Enforcement and Fire & Aviation).
- Maintains and promotes relationships with external domestic groups that are affected by Forest Service policies and program activities.
- Serves as Task Force liaison to Cooperative Forestry professionals in the field on rural prosperity and development issues.
- Serves on the International Diversity, Equity and Inclusion task force to promote policies that enhance the workplace environment.
- As a member of the Workplace Environment Evolving Supervision team, I conducted targeted recruiting activities to improve the representation of ethnic groups, races, gender, and ages of employees for the agency.
- Led revision of the Forest Service Continuity of Operations Plan to ensure continued provision of US government Emergency Support Function (ESF) #4 & #13.
- Coordinates and evaluated Forest Service participation in the National Level Exercise (Eagle Horizon).
- Serves as the staff technical lead for CIO and workplace environment issues and initiatives.
- Served as the Acting Chief of Staff for the Forest Service Deputy Chief of the National Forest System.

Adjunct Professor

January 2020 – Present

Georgetown University Walsh School of Foreign Service, Washington, DC.

Accomplishments:

- Teaching 18 graduate students on principles of global development.
- Designed course on environment, development, and conflict for graduate program.
- Instructor on environmental justice, renewable resource management, sustainable landscape management, and climate solutions.

Acting Assistant Director**August 2020 – December 2020**

USDA Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources, Washington, DC.

Provides technical and administrative expertise to the Senior Forest Service leadership and operational units on policy, guidelines, and authorities, which guides US Forest Service domestic and international activities and services in recreation, special uses, and conservation.

Duties:

- Provided technical leadership, guidance, assistance, and active participation in the planning and coordination of a national level program on recreation and special land use.
- Provided leadership and supervision for a portfolio of outdoor recreation programs for the Recreation, Heritage and Volunteer Resources (RHVR) program.
- Serves in a key role in the Forest Service's management of complex and challenging natural resource issues on a national scale.
- Advocated for and justified budgets for my unit and office.
- Worked with partners to address program concerns and develop national priorities.
- Provided leadership for a diverse team that manage portfolios covering a variety of complex and diverse disciplines that includes Recreation Special Uses, Trails, Travel Management, Landscape Architecture, Visitor and Interpretive Services, Congressionally Designated Areas, Accessibility, Winter Sports including Ski Areas and National Avalanche Program, Recreation Planning, and National Saw Program.
- Cultivated and developed key partnerships with external stakeholders and with other land management agencies, such as the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- Served as a liaison with non-governmental organizations and State and Tribal governments partners.
- Served as the Agency Coordinator for the US Department of State Virtual Student Federal Service internship program.
- Managed and set budget priorities for recreation program support national-level programs.
- Agency Representative to the USDA Secretary's Rural Prosperity Taskforce.
- Senior training liaison with US Army Europe Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC).

Senior Program Advisor/ Acting Deputy Director**December 2011 – October 2017**

USAID Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA), Washington, DC.

Directly coordinated with the Senior Leadership Team of the USAID Bureau of Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA), provided management and strategic direction to Agreement Officer Representatives and administered the \$26 million grant program, including assembling and deploying a new outreach and public diplomacy teams.

Accomplishments:

- Developed 5-year Communications Strategic Plan. This new plan set the parameters for office engagement with the USAID Missions, US Embassies, and the US Public. Briefed Congress on program objectives and scope.
- Approved and cancelled procurements, grants and contracts to meet agency objectives.
- Managed and programed a \$13 million global education budget in over 20 countries.
- Served as the Technical Evaluation Committee chairperson for education and health grant program.
- Managed Communication Team and developed priorities for outreach to global stakeholders.
- Coordinated and liaised with USAID Legislative and Public Affairs senior leadership to design strategy for Congressional briefings and in-person meetings.
- Served on USAID Agency-wide team to revise social media standards for engaging the public and served as the lead communication representative for the Bureau of Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance.
- Defined staff roles and responsibilities to increase transparency and accountability.
- Served as the climate education lead for the Bureau of Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance and was the liaison for the senior management team.
- Designed team building initiatives and implemented the use of technology tools to improve intra-office communication, increase staff morale, and enhance unit efficiency.
- Provided training in COIN and Stabilization to the US Army Joint Multinational Readiness Command in Germany to improve their ability for interagency work during international complex emergencies.
- Restructured office practices and procedures to align ASHA program with standard USAID operating practices, allowing for improved working relationships with other USAID offices and Bureaus and increased opportunities for ASHA Partners to collaborate with other Agency programs.

- Provided expert conservation and environmental education technical assistance to Hebrew University and Weismann Institute.
- Led global training and outreach initiative for ASHA partners, with required planning, hosting, and conducting partner workshops on program changes and policy updates in Central America, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia.
- Liaised with the USAID Coordinator for International Education and served as member of the global education planning committee.
- Led hiring panels hiring public diplomacy, development, and policy staff.

Special Assistant to the Director

June 2011 - December 2011

USDA Forest Service Office of International Programs, Washington, DC.

Provided technical and administrative support to the Director of the Office of International Programs which guides US Forest Service international activities and services.

Accomplishments:

- Developed staff deployment best practices to create an improved system for deploying Forest Service personnel on overseas assignments to hardship locations.
- Performed operational liaison role with national and international disaster-related agencies, USAID Missions, US Embassies, host country government officials, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations conducting disaster and humanitarian relief operations.

Senior Afghanistan Program Advisor

May 2010-June 2011

USAID Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), Kandahar, Afghanistan

Responsible for \$5 million portfolio of district stabilization activities and led the coordination of stabilization activities with US Regional Command South, US Regional Command Southwest and the Provincial government.

Accomplishments:

- Led the execution of closeout activities related to OTI programs and provided technical assistance to ongoing evaluations of OTI programs at the district and provincial level in South and Southwest Afghanistan.
- Served as senior liaison to senior leaders to provide strategic direction on stability operations for the US Military and Coalition Forces in South and Southwestern Afghanistan.
- Provided expert advice and mentoring on operational budgets and resource allocations for Southern Afghanistan conflict operations.
- Provided expert guidance fostering work group commitment and performance that directly impacted internal and external stakeholders in Southern Afghanistan.
- Monitored program expenditures and used complex analysis to set priorities and provide for the needs of beneficiaries.
- Managed multicultural team of humanitarian assistance and disaster management professionals.
- Mentored local and provincial officials in governance and project development.
- Led planning efforts as Control Officer for Senator John Kerry's visit to Kandahar and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi's visit to Helmand.
- Developed strategies to redirect program activities considering economic, political, social, and/or technological factors to adapt to a rapidly changing business and political environment.
- Served as the US Senior Civilian for Marjah District in the Helmand Province in Afghanistan.
- Served as expert technical advisor to the US Marine Corps on primary and secondary education programs in Southwestern Afghanistan

Senior Program Advisor

November 2009 - May 2010

USAID Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), Washington, DC.

Provided technical support to the Afghanistan/Pakistan Team Leader and Deputy. Contract Officer's Representative on \$30 million in grants under contract.

Accomplishments:

- Oversaw the implementation of various projects by contractors to ensure that they were meeting program objectives as outlined in their statements of work.
- Collaborated with OTI regional teams to assess the possibility of new countrywide programs and assist in determining how best to support stabilization efforts.
- Introduced newly developed transition and humanitarian theories and concepts in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of multi-year projects or program initiatives.
- Provided advise to OTI leadership on current political developments and security concerns and made recommendations to mitigate risks on program operations and increase likelihood of success.

Senior Advisor**August 2009 - November 2009**

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Afghanistan-Pakistan Fusion Cell, Washington, DC.

Led the revision and streamline of USDA's \$1.5 million Afghanistan deployment training program.

Accomplishments:

- Led in-country analysis of USDA staffing for Afghanistan and training resources available to USDA at the US Embassy.
- Successfully streamlined the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service Afghanistan training requirements by making changes to pre-deployment training that reduce costs and time required to get qualified staff deployed.
- Briefed Secretary of Agriculture and Senior Staff weekly on staffing needs and limitations in Afghanistan. Encouraged exploring innovative techniques to enhance existing deployment preparedness activities.

Senior Disaster Management Specialist**August 2008 - August 2009**

USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Washington, DC.

Led team responsible for transitioning disaster response responsibility of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.

- Managed the development of the operational components (Concept of Operations) for disaster assistance for 172,000 persons located in FSM and RMI.
- Developed training resources necessary for USAID to be compliant with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's requirements for assuming disaster response responsibility in FSM-RMI.
- Led programs responsible for developing, implementing, and evaluating new, alternative, or experimental work processes for the transition of the FSM and RMI.

Head of Office South Sudan**August 2007 - August 2008**

United Nations Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC), Juba, Southern Sudan

Responsible for coordinating the United Nations logistics operations in Southern Sudan. Implemented comprehensive mapping of transportation infrastructure in Southern Sudan. Led Non-Food Items (NFI) sector under the UN Cluster System.

Accomplishments:

- Led operations for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to the Abyei Crisis in Southern Sudan, which effectively coordinated resources with the Humanitarian Community for 100,000+ displaced persons.
- Developed the communications strategy for UN Logistics for submission to the United Nations Country Team and the UN Deputy Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator.
- Developed and managed budget for South Sudan logistic operations for UN country office.
- Led UNJLC Logistics Officers and GIS/Infrastructure staff in providing professional development training for Government of South Sudan (GOSS) Ministry of Roads and Transportation.
- Conducted and led diverse hiring panels to recruit humanitarian assistance professionals.
- Established and implemented long-range planning for organizational priorities and objectives.
- Led implementation of the Southern Sudan GIS Mapping project from pilot to scale for the Government of South Sudan (GOSS) Ministry of Roads and Transportation.
- Provided expert technical advice on transportation, training, and planning assistance for disaster logistics management operations of Southern Sudan to the UN Deputy Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator.
- Led modernization efforts and provided logistics and GIS technical assistance to the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) Ministry of Transportation and Roads.
- Successfully developed and implemented disaster logistics and GIS training for the GOSS Ministry of Health and provided key technical guidance to the Minister of Health for the Health Facilities Mapping Project.
- Served as an Agency Lead on the UN Country Team for Southern Sudan coordinating development and humanitarian assistance.

Senior Disaster Management Specialist**May 2000 - August 2007**

USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Washington, DC.

Responsible for integrating lessons learned from USAID international humanitarian and disaster mission to new strategies

for responding to complex emergencies globally. Redesigned and implemented new global training curriculum for USAID Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DARTs).

Accomplishments:

- Led multicultural Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) providing over \$162 million in humanitarian assistance to affected population in Darfur, Sudan.
- Revised contracting and supply procedures and processes which resulted in strengthening disaster assessment and response teams' ability to administer contracts and programs in the field.
- Led after-action reviews of disaster/humanitarian response and mitigation activities for OFDA's global portfolio, using information gathered to identify significant problems, recognize accomplishments, and make recommendation for increased program effectiveness.
- Provided expert planning, analysis, and evaluation strategies for the implementation of humanitarian assistance operations worldwide.
- Provided expert advice and led recruitment and hiring for actions for humanitarian operations.
- Led training team for the USAID/OFDA Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) Training, Response Management Team (RMT), and Safety and Security Officer courses.
- Worked with UNICEF to evaluate education programs for children in the internally displaced camps in Darfur, Sudan.
- Drafted briefing papers and communication products for humanitarian responses in Sudan, Pakistan, and Thailand.

International Visitor Program Manager

February 1998 – May 2000

USDA Forest Service Office of International Programs, Washington, DC.

Led team responsible for coordinating visiting international research fellows and scientist to the US Forest Service.

Responsible for redesigning and implementing new outreach tools and web resources to push information to 25,000+ global stakeholders.

Accomplishments:

- Led multicultural, interdisciplinary staff, designed project work plans and scopes of work, negotiated terms for subcontractors, and reviewed quality of final work products; managerial responsibilities include approval of budget requests, performance monitoring and evaluation, and career mentoring.
- Primary Forest Service liaison with the Office of International Cooperation and Development (OICD), the Department of State, the Agency for International Development (AID), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) North America, and other governmental, international, and private agencies in the development of policies and procedures pertaining to the analysis of technical qualifications and training requirements for foreign nationals and others in forestry and closely allied fields.
- Led technical assistance efforts in serving Forest Service partners in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- Liaised with UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) regional representatives about appropriate forestry and environment programs in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Asia Program Development Specialist

January 1998 - October 1998

USDA Forest Service Office of International Programs, Washington, DC

- Planned and managed International Program technical assistance efforts in serving Forest Service partners in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- Coordinated and facilitated discussions and technical assistance on forest health issues in South, South East, and East Asia.
- Coordinated project and program plans with work plans of other complementary projects and make revisions as necessary in response to changing conditions to ensure that program targets are being met for the region.
- Provided technical assistance to the USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance for forest fires in South East Asia
- Liaised with UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) regional representatives about appropriate forestry and environment programs in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Forest Policy Analyst

February 1997 - December 1997

USDA Forest Service Office of International Programs, Washington, DC

- Drafted official position papers and briefing statements on forestry and natural resource related issues for use in international conferences, conventions, and congressional testimony.

- Supervised design of exhibit and collection of materials from the United States to the 11th World Forestry Congress held in Antalya, Turkey, prepared briefing materials for U.S. delegation.
- Detail assignment to Natural Resources Canada (Canadian Forest Service) in July 1997 to consolidate reports on “Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management” for the Montreal Process Countries
- Drafted Food Security Policy Paper for presentation to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome.

United States Marine Corps Reserves, Atlanta, Georgia,
Lance Corporal, Logistics Manager

1990 - 1998

EDUCATION

Harvard University Kennedy School of Government Boston, Massachusetts
Senior Executive Fellow, 2019

Fordham University, Center for International Health and Cooperation Geneva, Switzerland
International Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance, 2007.

Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies New Haven, Connecticut
Master of Forestry (MF), Concentrations in Social Forestry and Forest Management, 1996.
Courses taken at the Yale School of Management: Investments, Public and Private Management of the Environment, Policy Modeling, and Energy Industries.

Morehouse College Atlanta, Georgia
Bachelor of Science, Interdisciplinary Science, Concentration in Biology, 1993.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Management Concepts, Inc. Vienna, Virginia
Federal Appropriations Law Seminar

US Agency for International Development (USAID) Training Group
Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), Safety and Security Officer Training, Response Management Team (RMT), Field Assessment, Land Air Sea Training (L.A.S.T.), HF/UHF/VHF Radio Field Operations Course, Satellite Phone Field Operations, DART Field Communications, Tactical Driving Safety and Security, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Safety and Awareness Training, Hostage Survival Training, US Government COTR/AOTR Certified

US Department of State Foreign Service Institute,
Foreign Affair Counter Threat

Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief (RedR) London, United Kingdom
Implementing Sphere - A course on improving accountability and effectiveness in the humanitarian sector.

Security Clearance
US Government Top Secret Level

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies Alumni Association Board President, African American Federal Executive Association, Society of American Foresters, International Society of Tropical Foresters, Animal Behavior Society, Blacks in Government