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BIOGRAPHY

Jeremy Konyndyk

Director, Office of U.S. Foreign
Disaster Assistance



Jeremy Konyndyk began his appointment as the Director of USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) in September 2013. As Director of the lead federal office responsible for coordinating the U.S. Government's response to international disasters, Mr. Konyndyk oversees OFDA's global programs and the Office's responses to an average of 70 disasters in 50 countries every year. Since assuming his position, Mr. Konyndyk has led the U.S. Government's humanitarian responses to Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, the resurgent conflict in South Sudan, and the ongoing war inside Syria, among other crises.

With a mandate to save lives, alleviate human suffering, and reduce the social and economic impact of disasters, OFDA monitors, mitigates, and responds to global hazards and humanitarian needs as they arise. As Director, Mr. Konyndyk leads a global staff of approximately 300 people and oversees annual resources of more than \$900 million.

Prior to his appointment to OFDA, Mr. Konyndyk's career straddled both policy and operational aspects of humanitarian response across a variety of countries and crises. From 2008 to 2013, Mr. Konyndyk worked for Mercy Corps, a large global relief and development organization. As its Director of Policy and Advocacy, he led high-level strategic outreach to governments, donors, the United Nations, and other partners on a range of issues with a particular focus on resilience and humanitarian responses to crises in Sudan, Syria, and the Horn of Africa. From 2003 to 2008, he served as Country Director for the American Refugee Committee in South Sudan, Uganda, and Guinea, designing and leading operational humanitarian responses in complex conflict and post-conflict settings. Mr. Konyndyk earlier served as a Refugee Officer with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration where he managed the Bureau's program portfolio for the Balkans. In addition, he led non-governmental organization (NGO) relief programs in Kosovo and Albania following the Kosovo refugee crisis of the late 1990s.

Mr. Konyndyk has written and commented widely on humanitarian assistance and humanitarian policy and served as a witness and frequent advisor to U.S. Congressional committees and staff. Mr. Konyndyk holds a Bachelor's degree from Calvin College and a Master's from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He is fluent in French.