

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Amie Batson



Amie Batson joined the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) as Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for Global Health and the USAID Deputy of the Global Health Initiative (GHI).

Ms. Batson's 20-year career in global health has included positions in the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and most recently, the World Bank. She was one of the original members of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) Alliance, where she led the World Bank's efforts in vaccine financing, including the establishment of new financing mechanisms, such as the Advance Market Commitment and the use of donor financing to "buy-down" loans from the International Development Assistance program. Together, these efforts have provided billions of dollars in new funding for global health and helped to vaccinate millions of children against polio, pneumonia, diarrhea, and other vaccine preventable causes of death.

More recently, her leadership efforts have been directed toward improving health systems through the use of results-based financing mechanisms. Prior to joining the World Bank, Ms. Batson was a joint WHO/UNICEF staff member in the WHO Global Program for Vaccines, where she led efforts to develop public-private partnerships for vaccines and to further investment in vaccine manufacturing and development. Ms. Batson has published nearly two dozen articles, mostly in the domain of the applied economics of vaccine production and commercialization.

Jeffrey A. May



Jeffrey May recently joined Merck & Co., Inc. as Vice President for Global Public Policy and is responsible for development of Merck's positions on cross-cutting, public policy issues. In addition, Mr. May currently serves as the U.S. representative to the World Trade Organization's Permanent Group of Experts on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures.

Previously, Merck, Mr. May served as Vice President of International Affairs at the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA). In that capacity, he directed PhRMA's advocacy efforts in Europe, Latin America, Canada, the Middle East, and Africa, as well as its Market Access in Developed Countries Committee. Before joining the international section, Mr. May was PhRMA's Assistant General Counsel responsible for international legal issues. Mr. May also has held various senior positions at the U.S. Department of Commerce. Most recently, he was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, where he supervised approximately 270 employees responsible for conducting unfair trade cases. Prior to his ten-year career at the Commerce Department, Mr. May worked at the law firm of Steptoe & Johnson on international trade matters.

Mr. May received his bachelor's degree from Brown University and his law degree from Columbia University School of Law.

Catharine Taylor



Catharine Taylor directs PATH's activities in maternal health, child health, and nutrition. Ms. Taylor has 25 years of experience in international and domestic sexual and reproductive health, with a focus on maternal/newborn health and programming for youth.

Before joining PATH in 2008, Ms. Taylor worked as the lead specialist for maternal health and as the program manager for the multisectoral program for HIV/AIDS in South Africa with HLSP, a leading provider of consultancy services, program management, and policy advice in the health sector. Prior to that, Ms. Taylor served as an expert in civil society organizations for a large European Union-funded reproductive health program in Turkey, the Asia regional advisor for Plan International, and the technical training advisor for the Nepal Safe Motherhood Project, in addition to undertaking numerous program evaluation and strategic planning assignments.

Over the course of her career, Ms. Taylor has specialized in designing and implementing capacity-building approaches for nongovernmental organizations, human resources development, and health facilities and systems strengthening. She practiced and taught nursing and midwifery for more than a decade before moving into international health work, and she currently serves on the board of the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood.

Ms. Taylor holds degrees from the College of Nursing and Midwifery in North Wales and an advanced diploma in midwifery from the Sheffield Polytechnic and Jessop Hospital for Women. She also holds a masters of science degree in economics from the Sir David Owen Population Centre at the University of Wales and has completed a graduate certificate program in global change and social innovation from Case Western Reserve University, Weatherhead School of Management.