

REBECCA ANN KOHLER

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Kohler currently serves as a senior executive leader for a large and growing global health organization with more than 600 professionals working in 35 countries and an annual operating budget of \$94 million. She leads critical corporate functions including business and resource development, strategy development, board liaison, private sector partnerships, communications, knowledge management, and advocacy. Under her leadership over the last eight years, the organization has experienced continuous financial growth and expanded impact. She has been responsible for bringing in more than \$920 million in new grants and contracts from US government (USAID, the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and other bilateral governments, foundations and corporations. Kohler plays a key leadership role in setting the corporate strategy, including a strategic rebranding of the organization that has significantly increased organization reputation. As a public health specialist, Kohler has extensive expertise in reproductive, maternal and child health and health systems strengthening.

Kohler has the following summarized competencies:

- Strong familiarity with United States government global health strategies, policies, and regulations at the global and country level.
- Twenty-five years of consecutively increasing experience designing and leading HIV, reproductive, maternal and child health and development programs internationally.
- Proven competencies in executive leadership, strategy, communications and marketing, resource mobilization, and negotiation.
- Stellar writing, presentation and communication skills.
- Documented technical expertise in *reproductive health, maternal and child health, HIV prevention, and health systems strengthening*.
- Twenty years experience working in more than 25 countries, including nine years resident (*Tanzania, 1990-1991; Kenya, 1995-1997; Eritrea, 1997-1998; and Armenia, 2002-2006*).
- Basic proficiency in written and spoken French language.

EXPERIENCE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

INTRAHEALTH INTERNATIONAL, Chapel Hill, North Carolina (1998 – present)

Senior Vice President, Corporate Strategy and Development, July 2012- present

Kohler catalyzes the conceptualization, development and delivery of the multi-year corporate strategy designed to move the organization toward sustainable growth and expanded impact. Kohler leads the business and resource development, corporate strategy, board liaison, private sector partnerships, communications, knowledge management, and advocacy functions of the organization. Kohler serves as acting CEO/President during absence of the incumbent.

Vice President, Strategic Development and Communications, February 2008—June 2012

Led IntraHealth's efforts to raise IntraHealth's visibility, communicate about its technical leadership, and achieve annual and multi-year revenue goals and objectives. As a member of the IntraHealth Executive Team, provided vision, strategic leadership, and practical experience to design and execute targeted efforts and activities to secure and sustain critical revenue support and heightened visibility for the organization. Kohler was responsible for business and resource development, board liaison, communications, and knowledge management functions of the organization.

Director, Program Development, April 2006–January 2008

Directed the organization-wide effort to identify, plan for and respond to procurement opportunities. Beginning in 2006, established and professionalized the first fully-functioning unit responsible for business development at IntraHealth. Key accomplishments included creation of foundational policies, guidelines and protocols related to partnerships, intelligence gathering, procurement tracking and documentation, decision-making, and setting and evaluating performance benchmarks.

Country Director, IntraHealth Country Office, Yerevan, Armenia, April 2002–March 2006

Led a 4-year, \$7.4 million dollar USAID technical assistance program to strengthen reproductive and infant care in Armenia. Program components include improving performance of providers and facilities; strengthening management systems; formulating policy; and increasing consumer demand for services. Responsibilities are program design, management of client/donor relationships, financial over site and budgeting, recruitment and supervision of 25 full-time staff in two locations plus short and long-term consultants. Directed a 3-year, 3.5 million dollar USAID technical assistance program to strengthen reproductive and infant care in Armenia. Program components include improvements in quality and access to maternal health care at the primary level; management and prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs); responding to gender-based violence in the reproductive health (RH) sector; and introducing family medicine. Responsibilities are program design, management of client/donor relationships, financial over site and budgeting, recruitment and supervision of 11 full-time staff plus short and long-term consultants.

New Business Director (temporary), NC January–March 2002

Oversaw formation of the new business development unit, including donor relations, proposal development management, negotiation with potential subcontractors, contribution to the technical direction of proposals, and establishment of systems necessary to expand and diversify funding base.

Area Program Manager, West, Central and North Africa, November 1998–December 2001

Managed and provided technical support and guidance to PRIME's country and regional RH and safe motherhood programs in seven countries in the region from the Chapel Hill office. Work includes strategic planning, budgeting and financial management, program planning,

coordinating and advocating for technical support to the region, supervising subcontractor and consultant activities, problem-solving around implementation issues, coordinating regional initiatives and documenting and disseminating project results for wider audiences. Responsible for facilitating the establishment of robust country programs in Rwanda, Ghana, and Mali; transferring the regional office from Togo to Senegal; and coordinating the introduction of innovative programming in the region in postabortion care, prevention of female genital cutting, and updating national clinical guidelines.

**WOMAN'S HEALTH EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS (WHEC), Durham, NC
Sept. 1993-July 1995; September 1999–January 2001**

Clinical Trainer

WHEC is a consulting group whose mission is to improve reproductive health care for women in North Carolina. Using a small group, participatory education technique, trained medical and paramedical students in women-centered pelvic and breast examinations, communicating effectively with clients and taking comprehensive sexual histories.

JOHN SNOW INCORPORATED, Asmara, Eritrea, April 1997-September 1998

Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Resident Advisor

Provided technical guidance to the Eritrean Ministry of Health (MOH) in the expansion and strengthening of their Health Education Unit, including national program planning and coordination; designing and conducting training programs in health communication, counseling and strategy development; and development of print and audio-visual materials around safe motherhood and child health. Designed, coordinated and managed a national communication campaign on micronutrient deficiencies for women and children. Daily management of the OMNI/Eritrea office in coordination with national program manager, including staff supervision, preparing project reports, negotiating with the MoH and other partners on project implementation, and on-going contact with the USAID Mission.

**INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION (IPPF), Nairobi, Kenya
May 1995-April 1997**

IEC Specialist (Served as a USAID/Michigan International Population Fellow)

Provided technical assistance, coordination and resource mobilization to behavior change communication programs for over 40 IPPF member affiliates in sub-Saharan Africa, including targeted assistance to Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, and Zambia. Served as lead coordinator on behalf of IPPF for a regional conference on men's participation in reproductive health. Designed and coordinated a study of lessons learned from adolescent reproductive health projects in 11 IPPF affiliates.

**FAMILY HEALTH INTERNATIONAL (now FHI360), Research Triangle Park, NC
*Health Communication and Training Officer, August 1992–April 1995***

Kohler provided technical assistance to all FHI divisions related to training, materials development and communication program implementation. Key achievements included conducting training workshops on media coverage of reproductive health for journalists and

editors in Bangladesh, Kenya, Swaziland, Tanzania, and Uganda. Designed and tested training curricula and materials, including a manual for training service providers in counseling and insertion of the diaphragm for an acceptability study in the Philippines and contraceptive technology slide shows.

IEC Program Assistant, August 1991–August 1992

Working for the five-year USAID global HIV/AIDS Prevention Program, AIDSTECH, Kohler supported health communication programming across multiple country programs. Key achievements included developing an educational flip chart, *Emma Says*, for use in commercial sex worker peer education project in Tanzania. The flip chart was widely successful, being used extensively throughout several countries, translated into French and Swahili, reproduced as a comic book and video. Kohler also coordinated FHI's overall media strategy for the International Conference on AIDS in Africa, Dakar, Senegal, 1991.

AFRICA NEWS SERVICE, Durham, NC, June 1987-May 1990

Kohler served in a variety of capacities, including writing articles, conducting interviews and background research, and monitoring incoming print and electronic news for *Africa News*, a biweekly newsletter. She managed the development of a mail-order catalogue of African handicrafts, including launching the initial sourcing trips in East and West Africa. This organization transformed into AllAfrica.com, the leading source of news from African media outlets.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, M.P.H.
Health Behavior, May 1994

Duke University, Durham, NC, B.S., Psychology, May 1987.

- Study Abroad, Syracuse University, Florence, Italy, Spring 1986

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Member, UNC Gillings School of Global Health Global Health Advisory Committee (2009-present)

Member, Duke University School of Nursing Advisory Committee to the Office of Global and Community Health Initiatives (2009 - 2011)

Board Member, the International Affairs Council (2013)

Member, and abstract reviewer, American Public Health Association (2009-present)

Alternate Board Member, Triangle Global Health Consortium