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# BIOGRAPHY

## Rajakumari Jandhyala

Deputy Assistant  
Administrator for Africa



Rajakumari Jandhyala has served as USAID's Deputy Assistant Administrator for Africa since October 2010. In this capacity, she oversees the Offices of Sudan Programs and East African Affairs. Prior to coming to USAID, Ms. Jandhyala worked as a senior advisor and head of the Peace and Security Division in the Department of State Office of the United States Special Envoy to Sudan.

Ms. Jandhyala is an expert on national security with a focus on war-to-peace transitions and public policy reforms in countries affected by conflict. Over the last 17 years, she was engaged by governments to develop and launch national strategies for peace negotiations, the deployment of peacekeeping missions, and complex policy reforms in security and development, as well as to manage crisis fueled by insurgencies, terrorism, resource competition and political transitions. In addition, she has worked in multilateral organizations to develop and implement strategies for economic recovery development.

Some of her appointments include: senior strategic advisor to the Government of Nigeria in the Office of the Vice President (Niger Delta crisis); senior conflict advisor to the Government of Uganda in the Office of the Prime Minister (Peace, Recovery, and Development Plan for northern Uganda); senior advisor to the Ministry of Defense in the Democratic Republic of Congo; senior peace and security advisor to the African Union (deployment of peacekeeping force and Darfur mediation); senior advisor to the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development; special advisor to the United Nations Special Representative to DRC; national coordinator in the Government of Sierra Leone in the Office of the President (disarmament and the peace process); advisor to the Government of Angola Ministry of Defense in support of the Luena agreement; reconstruction advisor to the Government of Liberia in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning; and public sector management consultant with the World Bank (poverty reduction, and economic recovery). Ms. Jandhyala has provided short-term strategic policy support to initiatives in Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Iraq, Nepal, Niger, Sri Lanka, and Somalia.

Ms. Jandhyala received a bachelor's degree from Purdue University and a master's degree in international public policy from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). She is a member of the International Working Group on National Security and was a visiting scholar at SAIS, focusing on national security and economic development. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in Sierra Leone.