



Seva Foundation  
1786 Fifth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

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**Bio: Jack Blanks**

Jack Blanks began his career in international relief and development in 1974 as a **Peace Corps Volunteer** in Benin, West Africa. Subsequently he worked six years for **Save the Children** in Burkina Faso and Malawi managing community development programs. From 1987-88 he covered four African nations as a **Desk Officer for Peace Corps HQ**.

Since 1988, he has focused on international health activities. As the **Director of Programs for the International Eye Foundation** in Bethesda, MD, he coordinated prevention and cure of blindness programs (1988-1993). As **Director of the Onchocerciasis Elimination Program in the Americas** (Carter Center led initiative) he launched a successful program to eliminate river blindness in the American continent. Jack joined **Project HOPE** in 1996 and served sequentially as **Regional Director for Africa, Latin America, and Asia**. During his later years with Project HOPE he held the position of **Director for Strategic Alliances**, creating partnerships with corporations, NGOs, and government agencies. He also coordinated disaster relief efforts for Project HOPE after the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia and Hurricane Katrina in 2006.

After 13 years with Project HOPE, Jack joined **Seva Foundation as the Executive Director in 2009** where he currently directs efforts to prevent blindness and restore sight in 22 developing nations.

Mr. Blanks holds a BA in Religion from Catawba College and a MSc. Degree in International Administration from Central Michigan University.