

## **Dr. Dennis B. Warner Biography**

Dr. Dennis Warner, currently Senior Advisor on WASH and Environmental Health for the **Millennium Water Alliance** (MWA), has nearly 40 years of experience in international development. Previously, he was Senior Technical Advisor for programs in water supply, sanitation, environmental health and emergency relief assistance at **Catholic Relief Services** for eight years.

Dennis also headed the Water, Sanitation and Rural Health office of the **World Health Organization** in Geneva. He has lived in Tanzania, Uganda, Switzerland, France, and the U.S., and has held additional positions with the **US Peace Corps**, the **University of Dar es Salaam**, **Duke University**, the **World Bank**, **USAID**, and a number of engineering consulting firms.

He is a board member of several humanitarian NGOs, and in 2000 served as representative of **Pax Christi International** to the **United Nations** in Geneva. In 2010, he received the **University of Illinois Alumni Humanitarian Award**.

Dennis has deep experience in all major areas of WASH activity, working as a WASH field engineer, a program/project manager, a university lecturer and researcher and as consultant on the planning, design, monitoring and evaluation of major WASH projects and programs in many regions working with diverse cultures. He has worked in every sector – government, civil society, multilateral institutions, academia, and the private sector. He has lectured and conducted research with major universities, including **Duke**, **Stanford**, **Harvard**, **University of Illinois**, and **Colorado State**.

While working as Water and Sanitation Program Manager with **WHO/Geneva** from 1989 through 1998, Dennis played a key role in establishing the **WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program**, and in the founding of the **Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council**. He also initiated the WHO-led program, **AFRICA 2000: Partnership Program for Water Supply and Sanitation**.

He studied history and engineering at the University of Illinois, where he earned BA, BSc and MSc degrees, and at Stanford University, where he obtained a PhD in civil engineering.

Dennis resides in Falls Church, Virginia, and travels frequently around the world. His recent work with MWA focuses on improving cross-sectoral programming and raising standards for monitoring and evaluation. As the northern Civil Society alternate representative alternate to the Sanitation and Water for All initiative for the past two years, Dennis has frequently attended SWA meetings and has worked to keep CSOs informed of SWA issues.

## **NEXT STEPS FOR CSOs WORKING IN SWA:**

### **Statement of Dr. Dennis Warner, Candidate for Northern CSO Representative, SWA Steering Committee**

To carry out the expanding work of the SWA and to build on the momentum generated by the diligent efforts of CSOs, I believe the next Steering Committee Representative should focus on these action priorities:

1. Encourage continued membership growth of CSOs (as well as of countries and other member groups) in SWA in order to promote expanded WASH services *globally*.
2. Promote the role and influence of CSOs in the Steering Committee to influence SWA policies and strategies – this requires *staying on task* and being visible to other constituencies within SWA.
3. Provide regular and clear communication between the Steering Committee and all CSOs, both in networks and among individual member organizations. This requires rigorous attention to communications *both to and from* the CSOs.
4. Encourage SWA cultivation of a greater voice to indigenous CSOs in the developing countries.

I have the support of my own organization, which is a formal alliance of WASH implementers and research institutions, to carry out this work on behalf of all civil society, and bring a truly international voice to the work ahead. I am grateful for this opportunity to be considered by the community of compassionate and dedicated people with whom I have worked for many years. I am eager to hear the views of my fellow civil society activists and experts at any time.

Thank you,

Dennis B. Warner  
October 11, 2015

Email: [Dennis.Warner@mwawater.org](mailto:Dennis.Warner@mwawater.org)