



PARTNERSGLOBAL

Together for Democratic Change

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David W. Yang is Executive Director of **PartnersGlobal**, an international NGO devoted to supporting peace, human rights and good governance. For three decades, Dr. Yang has worked at the intersection of these three fields. In doing so, he has held senior positions in governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations across the practices of diplomacy, development assistance, research & advocacy, and cross-cultural theater.



In the U.S. Government, Dr. Yang has served at the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). During the Reagan Administration he was a Presidential Management Fellow in the State Department's Bureau for Refugee Programs. He was a political appointee of the Clinton Administration—working as a democratic-governance advisor at USAID's Bureau for Asia and the Near East, a speech writer for Secretaries of State Warren Christopher and Madeleine Albright, and Senior Coordinator for Democracy Promotion in the State Department's Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. In the Obama Administration he served as a political appointee at USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, where he was founding director of the Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance (DRG) and later Deputy Assistant Administrator for DRG, peacebuilding, and women, peace and security.

In the intergovernmental sector, Dr. Yang has worked at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and the World Bank. He was a senior advisor for UNDP's Washington office, where he built partnerships with the U.S. government, U.S. NGOs and the Community of Democracies and where he convened the UNDP Washington Roundtable. At the OECD he co-chaired the Development Assistance Committee's Governance Network, which brought together 20 bilateral and multilateral development agencies working on human rights and democratic governance. In the World Bank he served on the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership on Social Accountability. He mobilized coalitions in support of the UN's historic Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace and justice.

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We work through a network of 21 local affiliates in Africa, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East to create partnerships with local change leaders that transform conflict, strengthen democratic institutions, and achieve sustainable development.

In the NGO sphere, Dr. Yang has held many diverse positions. He was a co-founder and co-editor of a weekly newspaper on Southeast Asian affairs, founder and artistic/producing director of a theater company devoted to exploring the confluence of Eastern and Western cultures, and founder and executive director of a research and advocacy organization on global democracy. He served on the board of directors for Partners for Democratic Change (now **PartnersGlobal**) and the Council for a Community of Democracies, and on the advisory board of the U.S. in the World Initiative. He was a research fellow at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's Center for the Prevention of Genocide, authoring a policy paper on atrocity prevention in fragile states. He also co-directed a puppet troupe of Southeast Asian refugee children in San Francisco.

Dr. Yang received a B.A. in Politics from the University of California at Santa Cruz. He studied political theory at the University of California at Berkeley, and received his M.A. and Ph.D. in International Relations at the School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University. He has studied theater and storytelling with professional theater artists in California and Washington, DC.