

Kristin Penn

Senior Director, Agriculture and Rural Economic Programs

Kristin Penn is Senior Director for Agriculture and Rural Economic Programs at the Millennium Challenge Corporation. In this position, her primary responsibility is the overall management of MCC's investments in food and agriculture, working with her team through initial compact development with eligible countries, refinement of proposed investments and then implementation. She also works to develop effective partnerships with international donors, NGOs and U.S. agribusinesses with interests in global agriculture growth opportunities.

Ms. Penn's career includes more than 20 years of working directly with agricultural producers, marketing firms and development institutions in more than 100 countries worldwide. Today, she applies this expertise to creating transformational agricultural investments that are market-driven, enhance the productivity of farm resources, and encourage developing enterprises throughout food and agriculture value-chains. Before joining MCC, Ms. Penn was Director of Global Programs and Services for the International Development Division of Land O'Lakes, Inc., one of the nation's largest agricultural cooperatives. In that capacity, she helped manage one of the largest and most effective economic development programs, blending the business experience of a very large, forward-looking dairy cooperative with her personal hands-on overseas experience to provide technical assistance to international development projects. The Land O'Lakes IDD managed and supported a \$100 million portfolio of almost three dozen projects around the world.

Ms. Penn studied at the University of Minnesota in agriculture education, extension and international programming. She was a scholar-athlete and a two-time All-American in Track and Field. She was an education and extension Peace Corps Volunteer in Zaire (1985-87) and conducted research as a Rotary Scholar in Tanzania.