



Chris Walker

Social Innovations Director, Mercy Corps

In his role at Mercy Corps, Chris manages the Innovation Investment Alliance, a partnership between the Skoll Foundation and USAID that finances the scale-up of social enterprises. He also advises Mercy Corps' Social Venture Fund, which invests in and accelerates impact-oriented, for-profit businesses. In addition, Chris is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, where he teaches a graduate-level course on impact investing and innovative finance.

Previously, Chris was the head of the Innovative Finance Program at the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), where he designed and built initiatives that attracted investment capital to address malnutrition. These included partnerships with impact investors to provide equity and debt financing to businesses having a positive impact on nutrition, and incubation support for African food and agribusiness companies. He also led the creation of the Access to Nutrition Index (www.accesstonutrition.org), a ranking of the world's largest food and beverage companies on their nutrition practices which serves as an assessment tool for the sustainable investment community. Prior to GAIN, Chris was a Fellow with Acumen, a non-profit social venture capital fund, and worked for one of Acumen's investments, Ziqitza Health Care, in Mumbai, India. He has also worked on international economic and development policy issues at the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the U.S. Treasury Department, and the U.S. State Department. Chris has a Master in Public Affairs from Princeton University and a Bachelor of Arts from Williams College.