

Gunilla Olsson

UNICEF Representative in Indonesia



Gunilla Olsson has been UNICEF Representative in Indonesia since 1 September 2014.

Prior to that, she was the Director of Governance, UN and Multilateral Affairs at UNICEF Headquarters in New York. In this capacity she led the organization's engagement with its Executive Board and the UN, which included the relationship with other agencies and governments as well as related bodies and the broader multilateral system, including the Bretton Woods Institutions. She was also a member of the Board of the UN System's Staff College and a Vice Chair of the High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP).

Before joining UNICEF on 1 September 2010 Ms. Olsson held leadership positions at the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), including three years as the Executive Director for change and reform where she was accountable for the management, direction and implementation of all aspects of IFAD's Action Plan for Development Effectiveness, and 3 years as the Director of Policy.

She took up her position at IFAD, coming from the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs where she was the Director, Deputy Head of the Department for Global Development and Head of Policy and Projects .

Throughout her career, Ms. Olsson has worked with numerous other multilateral and bilateral organizations, among them: ILO, FAO, GTZ and Sida. She led various complex change processes, involving people across departments and organizations; the development of Sweden's Bill for Global Development is an example.

Ms. Olsson has 30 years of diverse experience: from extensive field-work in developing countries, most notably in Asia and the Pacific, to policy-making in various UN-Headquarters positions and from working with governments and civil society organizations. She has worked on equity, poverty reduction, sustainable development, policy coherence as well as on organizational change and reform.

Ms. Olsson has a degree in Social Anthropology from the University of Stockholm and has participated in substantive training on organizational change, leadership and management, for instance at Harvard Business School.

Ms. Olsson is a national of Sweden and is married with two daughters.