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THE ENDURING STRUGGLE

The History of the U.S. Agency for International Development
and America's Uneasy Transformation of the World

John Norris

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About the Book

US Foreign aid is one of the most misunderstood functions of our federal government. Consuming less than 1% of the federal government budget, it has nonetheless played an outsized role in political debate. At the center of this controversy and misunderstanding has been the U.S. Agency for International Development, or AID, the government agency created during the Kennedy administration to administer America's foreign assistance programs, an often-conflicted behemoth with a presence spanning the globe. In this book, journalist and foreign policy expert John Norris provides a compelling and rich story of AID. In total, the work of AID has touched millions and millions of lives in ways that have been truly profound, both good and bad. On the Eve of AID's 60th anniversary, Norris shares history on an almost epic scale that remains largely untold.

About the Author

John Norris has served in a variety of senior roles in government, international institutions, and nonprofits. In 2014, he was appointed by President Barack Obama to the President's Global Development Council, a body charged with advising the administration on effective development practices. Norris currently serves as the Deputy Director of Policy and Strategic Insight at the Gates Foundation in Seattle.

Praise for the Book

I wish I had this book when I was running AID.
— **Peter McPherson, Former Head of AID**

John Norris has written a lively, compelling, and long-overdue history of AID and the foreign assistance program. This book is a must read for anyone who cares about development and America's place in the world. —**Henrietta Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF**

This is a unique story, one that highlights American global leadership through the lens of its humanitarian impulse, its capacity for trustworthiness, its willingness to cooperate and its commitment to stay the course. Norris hasn't sugarcoated the challenges of an agency working in the world's poorest countries and whose purpose has been misunderstood or misconstrued by political opponents.
— **Brian Atwood, Former Head of AID**

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