

## **Michael S. Bowers**

### **Vice President of Humanitarian Leadership and Response**

Michael Bowers is Mercy Corps' Vice President of Humanitarian Leadership and Response and oversees our strategic response and global emergencies team. In this capacity, Michael serves as the humanitarian voice for the agency, working in partnership with key external actors on larger humanitarian affairs affecting global programs. He is responsible for leading and supporting Mercy Corps' global emergency operations, working directly with the corporate and foundation team on private revenue strategies, enhancing their quality and accountability and ensuring that they bring the greatest benefit to people in need. Michael's role also includes the ongoing supervision of global field security



As part of our leadership in emergency response, Michael is accountable for stewarding the Humanitarian Capacity Building Initiative (HCI) which ensures Mercy Corps' preparedness to respond to global emergencies and crises.

From 1999 to 2006 Bowers served as Mercy Corps country director in Afghanistan, Albania, Croatia (where he was supported by a team including Graham Craft, our current VP for Corporations and Foundations) and Kyrgyzstan. In 2007 he served as regional program director for the agency's Central, East and South Asia region, which included China, Mongolia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, North Korea, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan –where he did a remarkable job with the limited amount of corporate and foundation money available for the region. He has directed the agency's activities in sub-Saharan Africa, the Balkans and Asia, managing programs in health, shelter, agriculture and economic development.

Bowers serves on the board of IMON, LLC, a microfinance bank in Tajikistan. He also participates in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), a unique inter-agency forum established by the United Nations in 1992 for coordination, policy development and decision-making involving key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners.

Prior to joining Mercy Corps, Bowers worked on civic education programs in West Africa for the National Democratic Institute and ARD, Inc., a consulting firm.

Bowers received a BA in art history from the University of Iowa and an MA in international management from the School for International Training in Vermont. He has testified on various topics related to international affairs and public policy in the United States and Europe.