

Ambassador (Dr.) Robin Renee Sanders U.S. AMBASSADOR TO Nigeria & ECOWAS 2007-2010; Republic OF CONGO 2002-2005; CEO FE3DS, LLC; Founder FEEEDS Initiative, Adjunct Professor Robert Morris University

Ambassador (Dr.) Robin Renee Sanders is CEO of the FEEEDS Advocacy Initiative and owns FE3DS, LLC both which work on economic development and business strategies for Africa. Prior to this, she served as the U.S. Ambassador to several countries (Nigeria and Republic of Congo) and U.S. Permanent Representative to the West African Regional Organization ECOWAS. As an academic while serving in the U.S. Diplomatic Service, Dr. Sanders was the International Affairs Advisor and Deputy Commander of the Eisenhower Resource College of the National Defense University. A noted international lecturer, she has taught International and African Affairs, National Security Strategies, and Human Cultural Communication. Her other areas of expertise are election and democratic processes, food security, education, and the environment.

Sanders served twice as Africa Director at the National Security Council at the White House, and is currently a Visiting Scholar under the CIC Woodrow Wilson Program and at Nigeria's National Defense College. Her business expertise lies in the areas of agriculture, aviation security, housing, Information Technology, Small-Medium Enterprises, and health systems. Ambassador Sanders serves on U.S. EXIM Bank and the U.S. Trade Representative Africa Advisory Committees; and is a member of Human Rights Watch and the prestigious Academy of Diplomacy. Dr. Sanders is a regular Africa subject matter expert for Al Jazeera America and ARISE TV.

Ambassador Sanders holds a Doctor of Science degree from Pittsburgh's Robert Morris University (RMU); Masters of Art and Masters of Science degrees in International Relations, Africa Studies, and Communications, respectively from Ohio University; and, a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Hampton University. Sanders is currently on Songhai Integrative Farms Systems Board – a leading African agricultural center. Sanders' FEEEDS® Advocacy Initiative focuses and works on the key global issues of *food security (agriculture), education, environment-energy, economics, development and self-help, particularly for SMEs, or what she calls the FEEEDS issues*. She is a RMU and Smithsonian African Art Museum trustee, a Global Advisor for Operation Hope and the AGOA CSO Network, and is writing a book on African socio-economic communication expressions.

Sanders is the recipient of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Civilian Honor Award (one of the highest U.S. military civilian honor awards); three State Department Superior Honor Awards; four State Department Meritorious Honor Awards; the "Medal of Honor" from the President of the Republic of Congo; several citations in *Who's Who in America*; and, received several leadership honors such as the African Advocacy Impact, and Diaspora Awards.

Dr. Sanders is a member of the U.S. National Honor and Scholar Society for her public policy and academic work. Her other diplomatic overseas postings have included the Dominican Republic, Portugal, Sudan, Namibia, and Senegal, with missions to Angola, South Africa, DRC, Cameroon, Botswana, Mozambique, Rwanda, Zambia, and Benin. Sanders speaks some French, Spanish and Portuguese.