



Global Awareness Lecture
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From Bullets to Ballots: U.S. Economic Assistance to Iraq

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Susan Merrill is a post-conflict transition expert with over twenty-five years of experience designing and directing United States Agency for International Development (USAID) programs in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Prior to her most recent assignment in Iraq, Merrill was the USAID representative to the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute at the U.S. Army War College developing Middle East peace-building policies for the Army. She has served as Mission Director in Cambodia and managed U.S. government assistance programs in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Liberia, and the Middle East. During her career, Merrill has designed and managed over \$500 million in various USAID portfolios in democracy and governance, economic reform, education, health, rule of law, infrastructure, and private sector programs. Based on this experience, she was asked to lead the agency's efforts to prepare a summary policy document on the successes and future of foreign assistance entitled "Foreign Aid in the National Interest."