



SIDDHARTH CHATTERJEE United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative

14 people have recommended SIDDHARTH

"I have personally witnessed Sid in action in Kenya and experienced his deep passion for development and humanitarian work for the larger good of affected people. He is extremely strategic and visionary in engaging the national partners for a collaborative approach. I have every confidence that he would excel in his new role as a leader of the UN Country Team in Nairobi." — **Subhash K Gupta, Chief Financial Officer, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), worked directly with SIDDHARTH at United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

"Siddharth (Sid) Chatterjee is the consummate professional diplomat and strategist who knows the United Nations system from multiple vantage points. Working with him in the context of multilateral and bilateral meetings dealing with the nexus of religion and foreign policy, I have repeatedly seen him tackle difficult questions with eloquence based on a precious heritage of experience. His rare combination of talents gleaned from life outside of the UN - but very much as an active partner thereto - as well as his rich expertise within the system itself, his sense of discipline and his empathy, all position him ideally to manage diverse interpersonal and complex relationships with hierarchies, individuals and issues. But over and above, Siddharth has actual experience in negotiating complex political and social and economic realities to achieve the outcomes needed in a win-win manner. Few in the world of international development and diplomacy have that ability and those unique skills. His record of raising resources and engaging hard to reach policy makers to respond to hard to reach and marginalised people is a tribute to his diplomatic skills and his well researched knowledge of the issues. Sid's personal style is to engage with charm, but remain on point, never missing an opportunity to stick to principle and defend legitimate interests, and yet ensure that either the person or institution he is negotiating with feels valued, listened to, and satisfied. He is a natural leader of people and a well-trained leader of multi-cultural and multi-dimensional teams and organizations in an institution like the

UN system. In short, he is a leader of principle, vision and strategic direction. His worth to the UN system, in these times, cannot be underestimated." — **Azza Karam, Sr. Adviser, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), worked with SIDDHARTH at United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

"I have worked with Sid as my Representative, he is a great person to work with very professional and result oriented. He is a true advocate who has walked the talk of human right based programming. When he came to Kenya he highlighted why the government and development partners should focus on the six counties with the highest maternal mortality. This has attracted great attention among the stakeholders resulting to funding commitment within and out of the country. You brought home the Swahili saying- panapo nia hapakosi njia – where there is a will there is away – and yes women in Northern Kenya can have access to quality maternal health care if and when we get leaders with the right vision which you are one of them!" — **Batula Hassan, Programme Specialist in reproductive Health, UNFPA, worked indirectly for SIDDHARTH at United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

"Taking leadership in maternal and newborn care in Kenya " — **Luwei Pearson, Regional Health Advisor, UNICEF East and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO), worked with SIDDHARTH at United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

"Siddharth Chatterjee joined my team in June 2011 and served as my Chief Diplomat and Head of Resource Mobilization when I was the Secretary General of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Working in the IFRC can be a challenge, especially for newcomers and those new to the system. Not only did he quickly adapt, but he also won over many of those that were skeptical of outsiders. He has shown that he is a man of integrity, drive, commitment and can be counted on to deliver results. His capacity for strategic thinking and action generated many new initiatives which the IFRC needed for its own growth. For example, he presented a strong case for greater focus and advocacy on the fight against polio, and for an expansion of IFRC programs around maternal and child health. He helped the IFRC to become a Principle Recipient for the Global Funds to fight HIV & AIDS, TB and Malaria. He is very well networked and something that he has carefully nurtured over the years. He led the growth of partnerships with multilateral and bilateral organizations such as the World Bank and the African Development Bank, and with Governments and the private sector to expand the resources base of the organization. He was also instrumental in advancing the global positioning of the IFRC as both humanitarian and development organization. For example his advocacy got the IFRC noticed in various arenas, such as the OECD, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Brookings and GAVI. Siddharth is an articulate public speaker and a thought leader with strong skills in humanitarian diplomacy. And combined with his excellent interpersonal skills and loyalty makes him a

formidable leader in any organization and a critical ally to any CEO. In no uncertain terms, he has been a great asset to the IFRC. Bekele Geleta" — **Bekele Geleta, Secretary General, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, managed SIDDHARTH indirectly at IFRC**

"I have had the absolute pleasure to work with Siddharth Chatterjee in two capacities. Since 2012 as my direct supervisor at the IFRC and as collaborators from 2004 to 2007 within our respective UNICEF offices in Brussels and Somalia, when he was UNICEF Somalia's Deputy Country Representative. Sid is known as someone who builds and sells a vision, plans strategically, grows and nurtures allies and advocates, solving problems along the way to generate new and valued programme partnerships and initiatives. I have seen how his efforts in both organizations have helped colleagues to step out of rigid mindsets and explore new ideas outside of previous comfort zones and increasing overall organizational relevance, visibility and resources available for programmes. Sid is a gentleman who is highly articulate, respectful, persuasive, lively and warm. He encourages his staff to push themselves, ensuring everyone is challenged and supporting everyone to be successful. He is someone who is loyal to his team, transparent, places trust in his staff, does not micromanage. He stands firmly behind them when taking risks or for that matter learning from mistakes. He always gives credit where credit is due. It has been a wonderful experience professionally and personally to work with him." — **Linda Kelly, reported to SIDDHARTH at IFRC**

"Siddharth Chatterjee joined the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies(IFRC) , the world's largest humanitarian organization, following a highly competitive selection and screening process as its Chief Diplomat and Head of Strategic Partnerships and International Relations. He is a natural leader with very strong networking, influencing and public speaking skills. He excels in fast-paced high-pressure environments and in executing complex operations in challenging settings around the world. He possesses strong skills in diplomacy and political acumen, combined with finely honed interpersonal skills. In his role as the Chief Diplomat he proved to be versatile, convincing and highly persuasive in calling attention to the plight of the most vulnerable when dealing with the highest levels of policy makers, opinion leaders and donors. He has an innate ability to get the big picture, takes the long term view, formulates strategies and decides on a course of action. He has diverse and significant background in international development and humanitarian action, including work with multilateral institutions, bilateral donors, relief agencies, academia, and the private sector as well as detailed knowledge of sector specialties common in field-based operations has proved to be a great asset to the IFRC. A man of cool allurements he is a true professional in managing complexities, dealing with setbacks, able to adapt and respond to changes and deliver results. A particular strength he demonstrated in a very short time at the IFRC was building strategic alliances and partnerships and as a result he was given the responsibility to also lead IFRC's Resource mobilization department and has already successfully raised resources from national

governments and other development partners. He has been an outstanding member of my team. In my view he is ready for senior leadership roles within and outside the organization." — **Goli Ameri, managed SIDDHARTH at IFRC**

"Sid was an outstanding, honorable, collegial, respectful and altogether excellent student of mine at Princeton a couple years ago. I think the world of him. Sincerely, Mike O'Hanlon" — **Michael O'Hanlon, managed SIDDHARTH at Princeton University**

"As my Regional Director, Siddharth showed exceptional leadership and management skills in bringing together a diverse team. I appreciated his creation of an environment of trust, transparency and diversity and his inspiration and empowering of his people to perform and innovate. He is proven to be a great mentor and was ready to recognize achievements. I found that Sid understood the needs of our stakeholders, bringing to bear his experience and interpersonal skills in conveying our strategic vision. It was indeed a pleasure and a learning experience to serve as one of his Country Directors. " — **Bruce McCarron, Director & Representative, UNOPS Afghanistan, reported to SIDDHARTH at UNOPS Regional Office**

"Sid had not long been in the post as deputy representative with UNICEF, Somalia, when I was recruited to launch the first Global Fund HIV grant. Building on a very vibrant past, the Country Programme, with Sid, was in a strong position and going places. From the outset, Sid, provided exactly the right sort of leadership for the team – high powered, technically sound and driven. Sid created the perfect working environment by allowing space to largely make our own work plan, gain by that experience and learn without fear of judgement. Always, Sid made himself accessible (24/7) and in a manner that was never rushed and respectful to all staff and partners he could be counted on to offer sensible advice both on a professional and personal level. With Sid at the helm, the HIV grant was able to achieve all it set out to do and more. Together as a team we overcame the bottlenecks and challenges and succeeded. With the vision of UNICEF acting as the guiding light, Sid would never shy away from difficult programme and policy decisions and help create a better practical knowledge of the meaning of short term gains and long term sustainable development." — **Gary Jones, reported to SIDDHARTH at UNICEF, Somalia**

"Sid joined the UNICEF team in Somalia at a time of great need for leadership, vision and solid programme management skills. He came directly recommended by the then UNICEF Executive Director, Carol Bellamy, who was impressed with his stellar performance as Emergency Specialist in Indonesia followed by an equally impressive performance in Darfur. He hit the ground running, assumed his functions as Deputy Representative and overall Programme Coordinator with ease and competence and was a delight to work with. A fundamental characteristic of Sid Chatterjee is his personable nature. He seems to establish a direct and personal link with almost everybody

in his surroundings and builds relationships of trust, confidence, respect and comfort. This unique human and professional quality helps make his work relationships excellent, his leadership strong and appreciated and his interpersonal communications superb. In addition, Sid demonstrates very high standards of professional quality and has a wide variety of talents that he applies extremely well in everything he does. Somalia always is and certainly was then a challenging programming environment. UNICEF Somalia is among UNICEF's biggest country programmes. Under the most difficult of circumstances, Sid's performance was impeccable. He is a man of great integrity and commitment. His capacity for strategic thinking and leading vision and change generated many new and important programme initiatives. He is a loyal and dedicated team member and an equally impressive team leader. Because of his ability to build teams, establish trust and delegate work, his teams become formidable agents of excellence and change. I am enormously proud of UNICEF's work and achievements in Somalia while I was Representative from 2002 to 2005. During the time I was privileged to work with Sid, he was certainly a fundamental factor in our success. His personal and professional talents are exceptional." — **Jesper Mørch, managed SIDDHARTH at UNICEF, Somalia**

"Sid gets the job done.....and he cares. He also takes on the tough ones. When I asked him to focus on Darfur in Sudan in 2004 I knew he'd deliver....and despite opportunities outside, he stayed and made a difference." — **Carol Bellamy, managed SIDDHARTH indirectly at UNICEF**

"I have known Siddharth Chatterjee since September 2001 when he came on a promotion from UNICEF South Sudan as UNICEF Indonesia's Chief of the newly formed Emergency Section, a section he built from scratch. He was tasked with finding effective approaches to the protection of children in conflicts and natural disasters and provide services to the nearly 1.2 million displaced in Aceh and the Maluku as a result of the conflict. He immediately took charge, authoritatively and cooperatively, came up with many creative new approaches for government, civil society and donors to deal with the many 'loud emergencies' Indonesian children during that period. Siddharth possesses an unusual mix of competencies and characteristics. He was quick in developing partnerships, building consensus around important child protection initiatives in emergencies within the large UNICEF Indonesia office, as well as with other UN agencies and NGOs. He built up a formidable team within the emergency section, staff with a range of important skills in order to take the various initiative forward. Despite initial hesitation within the office he was able to convince me and my senior team that opening of a UNICEF office in the fragile and conflict ridden Governorate of Aceh was important to provide protection and services to the children there. This proved to be a important strategic decision as this office not only was able to extend UNICEF's outreach to the more remote parts of Aceh and more importantly UNICEF was able to launch critical life-saving services as well as education when the conflict escalated in May 2003. Siddharth is a thorough professional and a leader, innovative and full of initiative, his presence in my team in Indonesia added to UNICEF's ability to enhance and expand

its services in Indonesia. He can be always counted on and will always follow through in time. He is an excellent team player, a team builder and sensitive to staff morale and welfare. Respectful and disciplined with a fine sense of humour, he is a great negotiator and was successful in persuading some senior policy makers in Government (who were very reluctant) and opinion leaders as well as donors in Indonesia on the importance of providing education during conflicts and natural disasters. UNICEF school tents and 'Schools in a Box' were an important source of providing normalcy to children and were ubiquitous in many parts of Indonesia and widely appreciated by the communities. This happened, thanks to Siddharth. I fully support his former supervisor, Dr. Sharad Sapra's recommendation about his performance in South Sudan, which he carried forward to Indonesia. I was very pleased to have him on my team. Rolf C. Carriere Former UNICEF Country Representative Indonesia; Senior Adviser, Nonviolent Peaceforce" — **Rolf C. Carriere, managed SIDDHARTH indirectly at UNICEF**

"Siddharth was one of the most professional and effective representatives of the United Nations programme in Northern Iraq. He led the humanitarian aid team of NGOs and U.N. agencies in Suleimania with integrity and great understanding of the needs of the then beleaguered Kurdish region. His professionalism and unrelenting hard work helped to ensure the safety and security of thousands of families and vulnerable groups, in very difficult and challenging situations. His ability to engage with groups with diverse needs and interests was outstanding. Siddharth was a credit to the ideals of the United Nations and a fine example of what honour, diligence and compassion can achieve in his sphere of work. I recommend Siddharth's work unreservedly." — **Irene Vagg, reported to SIDDHARTH at United Nations**