

Lars Göran Gustavsson

Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*

May 6, 2018



Lars Göran Gustavsson, a native of Sweden, has spent most of his professional life working in the arena of overseas development assistance. His involvement has ranged from small company start-ups to consortia and coalitions, functional change in major organizations, academia and new degree programs, complex relief efforts and major infrastructure projects. His goal has been to help people and organizations plan 10–15 years ahead while still succeeding with their current strategic operations.

Gustavsson holds a BS in business administration and AS in industrial arts from Southern Adventist University and an MBA from Andrews University. He also did graduate studies in business administration at the University of Tennessee, has Swedish language university certification and studied French at Seminaire Adventiste in Collonges, France. In 2014 he was recognized with the Alumnus of the Year Award from Southern Adventist University.

In 1998, Gustavsson began approximately 18 years of service with World Vision International. His most recent role was chief futurist and partner in the Global Office for Strategy, Collaboration and Innovation based in London, UK. Prior to this role, he held other senior management positions. Gustavsson worked to expand World Vision's capacity to engage more fully in international development, humanitarian and disaster management, and global policy. He helped to create business architecture for World Vision that allowed them to appropriately respond to up to four new rapid-onset-large-scale emergencies simultaneously anywhere in the world within 72 hours, while at the same time providing support and oversight to an additional 30 ongoing or chronic emergencies during any given year.

Before joining World Vision, Gustavsson was the senior administrator for ADRA International's economic development portfolio and liaison specialist for French-speaking African nations and countries of the former Soviet Union. During his 12-year tenure with ADRA, he also served as director for the Office of Food Supported Development and assistant director for community development programs. While working with ADRA he helped to develop, design and/or provide management support for community development and emergency relief programs in 15 lesser-developed countries including Sudan, Mozambique, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Russia, Azerbaijan, Nicaragua, Zimbabwe and more. He also worked with donor relations, funding search, proposal writing and managing grants.

Gustavsson was the principal architect and fundraiser of the master's degree for international development, a joint effort between ADRA International and Andrews University. Similarly, he was also one of the co-contributors to the establishment of a master's in humanitarian logistics at the University of Lugano in southern Switzerland and a master's in international and community development offered by Southern Adventist University with its first off-campus program based in Nairobi, Kenya.

He is a member of the Association of Professional Futurists and serves as an executive-in-residence at the INSEAD University in France.

Currently, Gustavsson is a leading partner, international development administrator and futurist with The 4th Sector Futures Group in Walla Walla, Washington. He lives with his wife, Janiel, and they have three grown children, Björn, Yanika and Bengt.

For his lifelong contribution to improving the plight of the marginalized poor and those impacted by humanitarian tragedy, Andrews University takes great pleasure in honoring Lars Göran Gustavsson with the degree, Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.