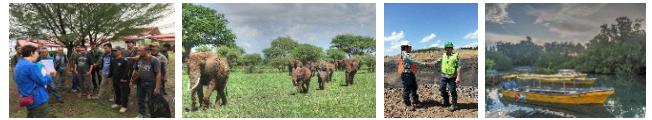




U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF THE INTERIOR
INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



DOI-ITAP

Ambassador's Water Experts Program Factsheet for U.S. Embassies and Consulates

Climate change and the reduced availability of water is contributing to increasingly severe health and economic stability challenges worldwide. The global water crisis fosters insecurity and state failure, limiting the capacity of global partners to advance our shared priorities.

In support of the President's Global Water Strategy, the Ambassador's Water Experts Program (AWEP) is a partnership between DOI-ITAP and the Department of State's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs that recruits U.S. water specialists to lead short-term water technical assistance programs.

AWEP seeks to engage key governments diplomatically and strengthen bilateral partnerships and intergovernmental organizations, while also leveraging the wealth of U.S. expertise in water.

HOW IT WORKS

In coordination with foreign government counterparts, U.S. embassies and consulates can apply for short-term water technical assistance cooperation through the AWEP program managers. The application form asks for basic information regarding the specific water challenge, the areas of expertise requested, and the desired timeframe.

AWEP program managers then review the application and seek additional information if necessary. Once approved, DOI-ITAP will work with the embassies/consulates to recruit and select one or more technical experts from across the U.S. government, NGOs, the private sector, and academia.

With AWEP support, experts meet with senior officials, water ministry staff, utility operators, local water associations, and community groups. Programs are designed in close coordination with the U.S. embassy and include public diplomacy activities to raise local awareness of water issues. Such activities may include school or university presentations, speaking at public events, or local media interviews.

Programs can be held virtually or in person and typically include consultations, formal trainings, or workshops, and are 7-10 days in duration.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Budget: \$1,163,000.00

Duration: FY18 – Ongoing

Activity Locations: Global

Implementing Partner(s):

- DOI-ITAP

Key Partner(s):

- Department of State/Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs

DOI-ITAP CONTACTS

Elizabeth Boynton

Senior Project Manager

Tel: +1 202 558 8708

Email: Elizabeth.Boynton@ios.doi.gov

DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONTACTS

OES Water Team Distribution List

Email: OESWaterTeam@state.gov

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Facebook: @DOI.ITAP

Facebook: @ScienceDiplomacyUSA

Web: www.doi.gov/ITAP/AWEP

YouTube: @DOI-ITAP

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What types of water expertise can AWEP provide?

- AWEP sources 1-2 water experts per assignment, bringing technical experience in a broad range of issue areas, including:
 - Water and Climate Adaptation
 - Water Reuse and Wastewater Management
 - Groundwater Mapping and Management
 - Flood and Drought Mitigation
 - Drinking Water Systems
 - Improved Water Utility Operation
 - Efficient Irrigation/Agricultural Water Use
 - Water Quality Monitoring
 - Watershed Restoration
 - Water Data Management
 - Remote Sensing
 - Dam Safety



Site visit to Foum Gleita/AWEP Mauritania (April 2024)

2. What is the role of the embassy/consulate?

- AWEP engagements are designed in close coordination with the U.S. embassy and/or consulate in-country to ensure programs meet both U.S. foreign policy goals and the needs of the foreign government.

Posts are expected to help facilitate interaction between the experts and the foreign government counterparts and support any in-country components of an AWEP assignment. This may include scheduling meetings, liaising between foreign officials and technical staff, arranging site visits, etc.

3. Is there any embassy funding required?

- AWEP will cover all program-related expenses, including travel, interpretation, supplies and other incidental costs. Payment can be arranged via card or fund cite.

4. How long would an AWEP expert be able to travel for and what is the usual lead time?

- AWEP experts are typically deployed to the field for seven to ten days. Trip planning can take less than a month if the expert has the necessary travel documents, but passports and visas can take eight to twelve weeks.

5. Would it be possible to request a virtual expert?

- AWEPs can be virtual, in-person, or hybrid, depending on embassy bandwidth and the needs of the foreign government partner.

6. We're interested! Where can we request an application form?

- Reach out to the AWEP team through the contact information listed below or apply using Microsoft Forms at www.bit.ly/AWEP. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Contact Information – DOI-ITAP/Department of State:

Elizabeth Boynton, Senior Project Manager, elizabeth_boynton@ios.doi.gov
OES Water Team, State Department, OESWaterTeam@state.gov