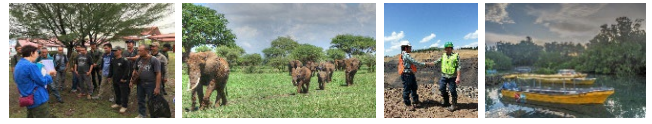




U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



DOI-ITAP

Ambassador's Water Experts Program

Factsheet for Prospective Hosts



Photo from AWEK Kyrgyzstan (November 2019)

HOW IT WORKS

DOI-ITAP receives proposals from U.S. embassies and selects technical experts from across the U.S. government, NGOs, the private sector, and academia. Programs can be held virtually or in person and typically include 7-10 days of consultations, formal trainings, or workshops.

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 awareness of water issues. Such activities may include school or university presentations, speaking at public events, or local media interviews.

The global water crisis is increasing disease, undermining economic growth, fostering insecurity and state failure, and reducing 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 (AWEK) recruits U.S. experts to implement short-term water technical assistance programs. AWEK seeks to engage key governments diplomatically and strengthen bilateral partnerships and intergovernmental organizations.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Budget: \$1,163,000.00
Duration: FY18 – FY25
Activity Locations: Global

Implementing Partner(s):

- DOI-ITAP

Key Partner(s):

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

CONTACTS

Elizabeth Goffi
Project Manager
Tel: +1 202 558 8708
Email: Elizabeth_Goffi@ios.doi.gov

Elisabeth 'Tess' Ericson
Foreign Affairs Officer
Tel: +1 202 288 3475
Email: OESWaterTeam@state.gov

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Facebook: [@DOI.ITAP](#)
Facebook: [@ScienceDiplomacyUSA](#)
Web: [DOI-ITAP Website](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I request an Ambassador's Water Expert?

- Reach out to the AWEP team at Elizabeth_Goffi@ios.doi.gov or OESWaterTeam@state.gov for the two-page proposal form.

2. What types of water expertise can AWEP provide?

- AWEP provides water experts with technical experience and expertise 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



Photo from AWEP Kyrgyzstan (November 2019)

3. What support does the U.S. Embassy/Consulate provide?

- U.S. embassies and consulates are expected to provide in-country coordination for an AWEP. This could take the form of organizing meetings and events, liaising with foreign government counterparts, arranging transportation or interpretation, etc. AWEP will cover any programmatic expenses as well as expert travel costs (flights, meals, lodging, insurance, transportation, etc.).

4. How long would an AWEP expert be in-country and what is the usual lead time?

- AWEP experts are in the field for no more than two weeks. Trip planning takes approximately eight weeks, but can be quicker if the expert has the necessary travel documents.

5. Would it be possible to host a virtual expert if travel would be difficult?

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

6. Who can I contact for more information?

- Reach out to program manager Elizabeth Goffi (Elizabeth_Goffi@ios.doi.gov) for an introduction meeting or to be added to the recruitment distribution list.

Contact Information – AWEP:

Elizabeth Goffi, Project Manager, elizabeth_goffi@ios.doi.gov

Elisabeth 'Tess' Ericson, Foreign Affairs Officer, OESWaterTeam@state.gov