



U.S. Global Water Strategy Ambassador's Water Experts Program

In support of the President's [Global Water Strategy](#), the Ambassador's Water Experts Program (AWEP) sends U.S. hydrologists and other experts abroad for short-term programs with the objectives of: increasing sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation services, and fostering the adoption of key hygiene behaviors; encouraging the sound management and protection of freshwater resources; promoting cooperation on shared waters; and, or, strengthening water-sector governance, financing, and institutions.

The growing global water crisis is increasing disease, undermining economic growth, fostering insecurity and state failure, and reducing the capacity of countries to advance priorities that support U.S. national interests. AWEP provides technical assistance for water security, targeting sustainable infrastructure and services and promoting science, technology, and information. The program seeks to engage key governments diplomatically, and strengthen bilateral partnerships and intergovernmental organizations.

AWEP is managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP), in partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES). DOI-ITAP solicits and accepts project proposals from U.S. embassies and selects appropriate technical experts from across the U.S. government, NGOs, the private sector, and academia. Programs typically include consultancies, formal training sessions, or workshops, and are 7-10 days in duration. Depending on the subject of the project, experts meet with senior host government officials, water ministry line officers, utility operators, local water associations, and local community groups. Programs are designed in close consultation with the U.S. embassy, and include public diplomacy activities to raise awareness of water issues. Such activities include school or university presentations, speaking at public events, and local media interviews.



*DOI technical expert demonstrates how to measure discharge with an acoustic Doppler current profiler. Luang Prabang, Lao PDR
Credit: DOI-ITAP, Kulthida Techasarin*



DOI-ITAP

Examples of Past DOI-ITAP Technical Assistance on Water Management Worldwide

DOI-ITAP helps to build capacity in other countries by drawing from the diverse expertise of DOI employees and other experts. Examples of how DOI-ITAP has helped to strengthen water management capacities with host country governments are listed below.

- **Transboundary Water Management in Africa:**

Worked with multiple nations within the Nile Basin on best practices in transboundary water management, including cooperation on water use, hydroelectric power sharing, public-private partnerships, construction of dams and power plants, and irrigation systems.

- **Groundwater Analysis in Cape Verde:**

Evaluated historical and current groundwater conditions to help design, train and equip groundwater monitoring networks.

- **Watershed Service Valuation in Ecuador:**

Provided training on protocols used to determine the value of watershed resources, and to monitor water quality and water pollution in Ecuador's highlands.

- **Dam Safety in Laos:** Provided training on improving dam design and operation and recommended proper flood control and dam safety measures to safeguard the health and safety of downstream communities.

- **Human Impact on Cambodia's Watersheds:** Raised awareness of watershed values and the effects of human actions on water quality, river morphology, bank erosion, and fish and wildlife habitat.

- **Monitoring Hydrology Systems in Indonesia:** Trained on the design of hydrology monitoring networks, including the installation and maintenance of monitoring equipment and strategies for collecting and analyzing hydrologic data.



DOI technical expert demonstrates water quality monitoring YSI equipment to park staff. Palangkaraya, Indonesia.

For further information, or to obtain application documents, please contact:

Elizabeth Goffi (Elizabeth_Goffi@ios.doi.gov)