

Reclamation Manual

Policy

Subject:	Reclamation Policy on International Affairs
Purpose:	Establishes policy for Bureau of Reclamation's international programs, assistance, and activities.
Authority:	The authority for Reclamation to provide services to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Department of State is from Pub. L. 87-195 (Foreign Assistance Act or FAA). The authority to provide services and commodities to foreign governments, international organizations, and non-profits on a reimbursable basis is Section 607 of the FAA. Under Section 627-630 of the FAA, Reclamation has authority to provide personnel to foreign governments and international organizations. Under Section 632 (b) of the FAA, USAID or Department of State may utilize the services and facilities of, or procure commodities from, any Federal agency. Authority to accept foreign visitors and trainees other than those sponsored by USAID is under Pub. L. 80-402 (U.S. Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948) and Pub. L. 87-256 (Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961).
Approving Official:	Commissioner
Contact:	Director, Native American and International Affairs Office, 96-43000

1. **Introduction.** Reclamation will make its expertise in water resource management available to further U.S. foreign policy; enhance public health and promote sustainable development in developing countries; support U.S. private sector participation in the international marketplace; provide a venue to exchange technical information and expertise; and obtain improved technology for the benefit of Reclamation water users and the United States.
2. **Applicability.** This Policy applies to all Reclamation staff involved with international programs, assistance, and activities.
3. **Definitions - State Department.** The Department of State or State Department is the lead foreign affairs agency responsible for formulating and implementing U.S. foreign policy.
4. **Responsibilities.** The Native American and International Affairs Office (NAIAO) is responsible for developing and implementing the policy and the administration and oversight of the International Affairs Program and foreign travel.
5. **Policy.**
 - A. Reclamation will make its expertise in water resource management available to further U.S. foreign policy, enhance public health and support sustainable development in

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developing countries, and support U.S. private sector participation in the international market place. Reclamation will consider requests for assistance by foreign governments, international funding entities, other Federal agencies, or the private sector. Activities must be approved by the State Department and be consistent with Reclamation's mission as a water resource management agency.

- B. Participation in international activities is an important adjunct to Reclamation's domestic program. Providing technical assistance and training to others is always a learning experience and provides Reclamation with a broader perspective and improved technical and managerial skills. Sharing of Reclamation's expertise and experience will assist other countries to better manage their water resources in a sustainable and environmentally sensitive manner. Reimbursement will be necessary unless there are tangible benefits to Reclamation's domestic programs, or it is determined that such activity provides significant benefits to U.S. foreign policy objectives. Consideration will be given to the impact of international activities on Reclamation's mission, personnel, and facilities.
- C. Reclamation will gather and exchange scientific and technological information related to Reclamation's priorities by joining in cooperative science and technology programs, participating in selected international professional and trade associations, and hosting international visitors. Participation in these activities will be based upon their value to Reclamation, approval and/or request by the State Department, and available funding for the activity.
- D. In support of the Administration's initiatives, Reclamation will assist the U.S. private sector to enhance its competitiveness in obtaining work overseas. Requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for impacts on Reclamation's domestic program as well as consistency with Reclamation's mission in water management and with this policy statement. All costs will need to be reimbursed to Reclamation.
- E. Each request for a foreign visitor program to be undertaken at either a Reclamation office or facility will need to be reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis. Foreign visitor programs are generally limited to 1 day and do not require reimbursement, although NAIAO can provide limited funding to field offices for foreign visitors should that be necessary.

Reclamation Manual Transmittal Sheet

Effective Date: _____

Release No. _____

Please ensure that all employees who need this information are forwarded a copy of this release.

Reclamation Manual Release Number and Subject

Summary of Changes

Filing Instructions

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All Reclamation Manual releases are available at <http://www.usbr.gov/recman/>.

Filed by: _____

Date: _____