

# Reclamation Manual

## Policy

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**Subject:** Reclamation Policy on International Affairs

**Purpose:** Reclamation will make its expertise in water resource management available to further U.S. foreign policy; enhance public health in developing countries; restore the environment; support U.S. private sector participation in the international marketplace; and obtain improved technology for the benefit of Reclamation water users and the United States.

**Authority:** The authority for Reclamation to provide services to the Agency for International Development (USAID) is Part I of Public Law 87-195 (Foreign Assistance Act). The authority for technical assistance other than USAID programs is Section 607 of Part III of the Foreign Assistance Act. Authority to accept foreign visitors and trainees other than those sponsored by USAID is under Public Law 80-402 (U.S. Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948) and Public Law 87-256 (Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961).

**Contact:** International Affairs Group, W-1520

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### 1. International Affairs Policy.

- A. Reclamation will make its expertise in water resource management available to further U.S. foreign policy, enhance public health in developing countries, restore the environment, 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 will 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 assistance to others is always a learning experience and provides Reclamation with a broader perspective and improved technical and managerial skills. It is felt that sharing of Reclamation's expertise and experience will enhance other countries' abilities 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. 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

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Technology Programs, participating in selected international professional and trade associations, and hosting of international visitors.

Participation in these activities will be evaluated based upon 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 be reimbursed to Reclamation.
2. **International Affairs Program.** The International Affairs Group in the Office of the Commissioner is responsible for carrying out policy for Reclamation's International Affairs Program, and for administration and oversight of the program.