



AGU Science Policy & Government Relations

Maximizing Our Impact

Science Policy in Action

2024

AGU Provided Input on 14 Pieces of Legislation in 2024



Policies and Legislation AGU and our Members Provided Feedback or Input on

- S.3606: National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act
- H.R.9723: National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program Reauthorization Act
- S.5601: Weather Act Reauthorization Act
- House and Senate Fiscal Year 2025 Federal Funding (Appropriations)
- Implementation of H.R.2695: Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act (117th Congress)
- The Impact of Climate Change on Subsurface Infrastructure
- NASA Science Mission Directorate Priorities and Challenges
- Federal funding for Tsunami Research
- S.4207: Spectrum and National Security Act of 2024
- S.4343: Fire Ready Nation Act
- NSF Draft South Pole Master Plan
- H.R.1768: National Institutes of Health Reform Act
- New USGS Extramural Grants Program
- National Science and Technology Council Marine Carbon Dioxide Removal Fast Track Research Action Committee Report

AGU Endorsed 7 Bills in 2024

- Building and Upgrading Infrastructure for the Long Term (BUILT) Act
- Comprehensive National Mercury Monitoring Act
- American Innovation Act
- National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security (NCARS) Act
- National Landslides Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act of 2024
- National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) Reauthorization Act
- Forecasting Optimization for Robust Earth Climate Analysis and Subseasonal-to-Seasonal (FORECASTS) Tracking Act of 2024

AGU Endorsed One Bill that Became Law in 2024

- FAA Severe Turbulence Research and Development Act

AGU Influenced Other Policy Issues



Advocated for robust funding for U.S. federal science agencies



Helped protect portions of electromagnetic spectrum for scientific use



Pushed for funding and federal collaboration to accelerate quantum and artificial intelligence



Supported procurement of airplanes essential for scientific research and upgraded facilities in Antarctica



Request further deliberation on efforts that could harm the future of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

Ethical Framework Principles for Climate Intervention Research

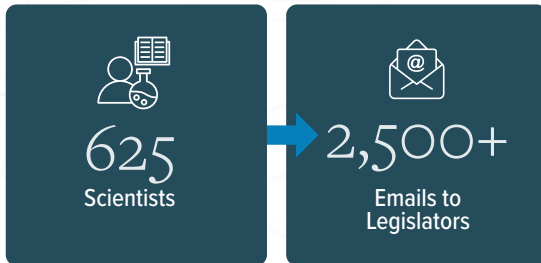
In October 2024, after 2 years of development, AGU released its final ethical framework for climate intervention. Following the release of the report, AGU held events for global policymakers and scientists at the 16th COP on Biological Diversity, UNFCCC Climate Change Conference (COP29), and AGU24.

AGU also provided briefings for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP); the National Science Foundation (NSF); the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Mathematics (NASEM); and the Department of Homeland Security.

Impact on Diverse and Just Science Culture



AGU Empowers Hundreds of Scientists to Shape Policy



In 2024, AGU helped **625 scientists** write **over 2,500 emails to legislators** about critical science policy bills related to climate change, science funding, and natural hazards, and more.

At least 24 congressional offices signed on as co-sponsors of AGU endorsed bills after AGU scientists asked them to support that legislation.

Voices for Science Impact Continues

In 2024, its **seventh** year, AGU's Voices for Science program continued to create the next generation of science policy and science communication leaders equipped to address scientific and societal challenges.



40

Participants this year



1,000

Outreach activities conducted



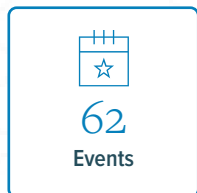
8M

People engaged

“This is the most important and impactful program I’ve been a part of throughout my PhD so far.”

—2023-2024 Voices for Science Participant

The Science Policy and Government Relations team hosted **62 events** including webinars, workshops and more for **over 2,000 AGU members** in 2024.



AbSciCon



AGU24



Ocean Sciences Meeting



TESS



Congressional Briefings or Events



Mentoring 365 Skills for Science Policy Circle



Webinars



Workshops

AGU Leads 5 Congressional Visits Events with over 150 participants

1 Local Science Partners MARCH

 31 Attendees

 84 Congressional Meetings

2 Voices for Science APRIL

 20 Attendees

 29 Congressional Meetings

3 Community Science Congressional Visits MAY

 6 Attendees

 12 Congressional Meetings

"I feel this was a phenomenal event that really ties a lot of inspiration into our policy by creating a direct bridge between those making decisions and those living with the consequences of them."

– Community Science CVD participant



4 Geoscience Congressional Visits Day (Geo-CVD) SEPTEMBER

 27 Attendees

 51 Congressional Meetings

"This was a great experience. I did not know what to expect when I registered but I got so much out of this experience and would definitely suggest it to any researcher who is interested in seeing how they can make an impact outside of their lab or scientific community."

– Geo-CVD participant



Geosciences Congressional Visits, September 2024

5 AGU24 Congressional Visits DECEMBER

 84 Attendees

 67 Congressional Meetings

Local Science Partners


80
Participants


37
States

AGU's Local Science Partners program, now in its third year, empowers AGU members to build relationships with their policy-makers, enabling AGU to more effectively influence science policy. In 2024, the program had **80 participants from 37 states**.

Collectively, partners have garnered congressional action to support science, including increased funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Department of Energy's Office of Science, supporting climate resilience and hazards legislation.



Local Science Partners Michaela Rogers, Karli Tyance Hassell with Senator Murkowski (AK), March 2024



Local Science Partners, March 2024

Impact on Inclusive Collaboration



AGU Strengthens its Global Science Policy Community

AGU hosted **4 global policy webinars** and **over 40 additional trainings** both virtually and at AGU24 that were open to global participants.

Additionally, AGU debuted a quarterly global AGU Weekly, focused exclusively on global science and science policy events, resources, and opportunities.



4

Global Policy Webinars



40+

Additional Trainings

Voices for Science Global Cohort Champions Change Worldwide

In 2024, its third year, AGU's Voices for Science global cohort continued to grow and increase their impact. Scientists hosted multi-day workshops to discuss fighting scientific misinformation, were interviewed on European television and radio stations, and met with policymakers in Europe to discuss science issues. Our international cohort is comprised of scientists from Germany, France, and four scientists from Canada.

These scientists collectively took **over 130 actions** throughout 2024, **engaging over 1,000 people in person and millions with their media reach**. Voices for Science global cohort members also co-hosted a session at the EGU General Assembly 2024 focused on Science Policy in April. One Bangladesh-born, Canada-based scientist conducted three television interviews about extreme weather events in Bangladesh, wrote two opinion columns in two Bangladeshi newspapers about recent catastrophic weather events, and is currently working on revising the Bangladesh government's weather forecasting laws, which prevent non-governmental organizations from providing weather forecasts.

130+

Actions

1,000+

People engaged in person

Millions

of People engaged with media reach

External Partnerships



Throughout 2024, AGU partnered with **Ocean Visions** for a series of discussions about the development of ocean carbon dioxide removal (oCDR), hosting a townhall at the Ocean Sciences and a poster session at AGU24.



AGU co-sponsored **NOAA's Day On the Hill**, where congressional staff came to see demonstrations of NOAA's capabilities, hear from NOAA staff like Assistant Secretary for Environmental Observations Dr. Michael Morgan, and meet the NOAA therapy dog, Ember.



AGU collaborated with **the American Astronomical Society (AAS)** and **The Planetary Society** on a letter advocating for \$9 billion for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in FY2025 signed by 10% of the House of Representatives, a congressional briefing, and science policy talks at the Triennial Earth-Sun (TESS) and the Astrobiology Science Conference (AbSciCon).



AGU partnered with the **Climate Science Legal Defense Fund (CSLDF)** on a series of webinars to enable the scientific community to legally and effectively engage in political and policy opportunities.



AGU and **NASA** hosted a field trip to Goddard Space Flight Center for congressional staff, which featured a panel of experts discussing what's next for NASA's Science Mission Directorate and a view of the ROMAN Space Telescope under construction.

Impact on Organizational Excellence



Position Statements

In coordination with the AGU community, **AGU adopted three revised position statements.**

1

Society Must Undertake Transformative Action Now to Mitigate and Adapt to the Climate Crisis

2

Preserving Open Data as a World Heritage to Secure our Future

3

Science Communication Needs to be Inclusive and Intentional

Translations of AGU's Geohealth and Climate Intervention position statements are now available in Chinese, French, Hindi, Portuguese, and Spanish. Starting in 2025, all new position statements will be published in the ESS Open Archive (ESSOAR) and citable with their own Digital Object Identifier (DOI).

AGU's Science Policy Opportunities: Building the Next Generation

4
Science Policy Interns

1
Congressional Science and Technology Fellow

50%
Circle Members outside the U.S.

17
Scientists Signed up for Mentoring365 Circle

AGU hosted **four science policy interns** this year, two dedicated to AGU's member engagement (grassroots) work and two legislative interns. AGU's interns were critical to executing our five congressional visits day events, maintaining AGU's science policy presence on social media, and staying abreast of science policy and legislation developments.

AGU continues to sponsor a Congressional Science and Technology Fellow. AGU's 2024-2025 fellow, Yezi Yang, was placed in Senator Wyden's office. AGU's 2023-2024 Congressional Science Fellow, Devon B. Gorbey, accepted an Executive Science Fellowship with the U.S. Department of State.

AGU hosted its second Mentoring365 Circle in September to mentor members interested in learning about the skills needed to get involved in science policy. This year, **17 scientists** signed up for the Circle with nearly half of the members coming from outside the U.S., including Nigeria, India, Germany, Cameroon, and Japan.