

GEOSCIENTISTS *WITHOUT BORDERS*® COMMITTEE 2024-2025 REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, the Geoscientists Without Borders® (GWB) program continued to advance its mission of supporting geoscience projects that address critical community and environmental challenges worldwide.

- Two new projects were approved for funding in 2025.
- Eight projects were successfully completed during 2024-2025, with all final reports reviewed and approved.
- Three collaborative grant proposals were prepared with SEG Foundation staff—two submitted to the National Academies' Gulf Research Program (GRP) and one to the Avery Dennison Foundation (ADF).
- An in-person lecture tour, part of SEG's *Global Sustainability Lecture Series* supported by the Baker Hughes Foundation, was conducted in May-June 2025 in Indonesia and Jakarta. A total of 25 meetings and lectures were delivered, reaching 782 on-site and 862 online attendees.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

New Projects

During the 2025 Phase I Call for Proposals, the six members of the GWB Technical Review and Screening Committee (TRSC) received 49 submissions. Of these, 10 proposals advanced to Phase II review. Due to limited funding, two projects were approved for implementation in 2025:

Lead Organization	Project	Duration
University of Memphis	<i>Real-time seismic monitoring of the Santa Ana volcanic complex, El Salvador</i>	2 Years
University of Nigeria	<i>Investigations of the groundwater potential of Eha-Amufu, southeastern Nigeria</i>	1 Year

Funding Initiatives

Program funding for GWB has declined significantly in recent years. The GWB Steering Committee continues to pursue alternative funding sources, including outreach to corporate sponsors, family foundations, and external grant programs to support projects identified by the TRSC as high impact.

Two proposals were submitted to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's (NASEM) Gulf Research Program, both of which remain under review:

1. *Building Coastal Resilience through Community-Engaged Research on Environmental Impacts in Matagorda Bay* – in partnership with the University of Houston.
2. *Engaging Local Students and Teachers in Tracing Groundwater Contamination in Galveston Bay for Community Resiliency* – in partnership with Texas A&M University.

Additionally, a funding proposal for a water project in Zambia was submitted to the Avery Dennison Foundation (ADF) in collaboration with The SAM Project, a previous GWB grantee partner. Although the proposal was not selected for funding, it helped strengthen relationships with potential partners for future initiatives.

IMAGE 2025

GWB hosted a Special Session at IMAGE 2025 as part of the conference's Technical Program. The session featured nine oral presentations highlighting both current and completed projects. GWB also organized a networking reception where student participants from India, Guatemala, and Indonesia presented oral summaries of their project outcomes, underscoring the program's global reach and educational impact.

Forward Plans

Looking ahead, the GWB Steering Committee remains focused on expanding the program's funding base through strategic partnerships and grant opportunities. Projects evaluated by the TRSC and deemed high impact will be prioritized for submission to external funders. Continued emphasis will be placed on supporting innovative, community-driven geoscience initiatives that promote resilience and sustainability worldwide.