

Emily S Weeks, PhD

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PERSONAL PROFILE

International Environmental leader with 20+ years of experience | Brings positive strategic vision, influential leadership style, networking strengths, and a dedication to innovation | Demonstrated ability to translate strategic vision into practical real-world deliverables | USG strategic lead for Climate policy dialogues and programmatic implementation with governments, civil society, private sector, and research institutes.

EDUCATION

2012 **Doctor of Philosophy (Conservation Science)** – *The University of Waikato, New Zealand*
2003 **Master of Science** - *Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand*
2001 **Bachelor of Science (Honors: Magna cum laude)** - *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*

TOP SKILLS

Climate Policy | Program Management | Environmental Science | Leadership | International Negotiations

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- Senior Environmental Policy Advisor, Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, USAID** 2018– Present
- Provide Global leadership in adaptation and mitigation for Climate Policy including established and lead the USAID PREPARE effort for NDC/NAPS implementation titled the Comprehensive Action for Climate Change Initiative (CACCI), a \$250M initiative to support the implementation of Paris Agreement Climate Commitments
 - Develop strategic partnerships, networks and facilitate policy dialogues with international donors and non-profit organizations, country governments, and research institutions to shape and build collaborative projects that address climate change
 - Lead initiatives at country level to establish a framework and approach for climate change, carbon offsets, natural resource governance and management, land, water and resource policy, and resilience
 - Represent USG at international forums including COP 26, IPCC Panel 2019, Global Donor Working Group, African Land Policy Conference, World Bank Land Conference, and Food Systems Summit, NCA5 panel, Global Resilience Partnership and Co-Chair on Global Donor Working Group on Land
 - Provides strategic guidance for climate advocacy and coordinate and maintain high level dialogues with Partner Countries governments, working directly with Ministers, and Agency Directors.
 - Perform management duties including strategic budgeting and planning, supervision of staff, source funding, review budgets and workplans
 - Work with Operational Units including Mission Directors and Senior management to identify priorities and meet objectives for mainstreaming Climate and Nature Based Solutions across Missions
 - Devise strategies, guidance, projects and roadmaps for climate, agriculture and natural resource management policy including agency Nature Based solutions strategy, Sustainable Food Systems Strategy, Climate Strategy, Land Tenure and Resource Governance Policy, Indigenous Peoples Strategy
 - Communicate and present Agency objectives across implementation partners, conferences, and workshops
 - Technical specialist, advising senior leadership on strategy and long-term interventions for climate change and adaptation, natural resource management, land governance and water security policy
 - Support multi-sector programming and manage centrally administrated projects
 - Develop mainstream policy agenda for front office, field missions and across agencies, and facilitate program development for Resilience and Food Security including water and resource security

- NRM, Climate and Land Policy Specialist, Bureau for Food Security, USAID, Washington DC** 2015-2018
- Developed and mainstreamed a policy agenda for climate adaptation and natural resource management for agriculture within BFS, USAID, and with field missions
 - Provided expert technical leadership and assistance and policy and program advice to meet the climate, NRM land tenure and resource governance objectives as outlined in the GFSS
 - Co-Lead on Climate Smart- Ag GLEE and training series and provide technical support to Missions
 - Led strategic policy and research dialogue and provided program support for the Bureau of Food Security on resource management, land tenure and resource rights, and climate smart agriculture
 - Worked closely with CGIARs and other international research consortiums to shape projects and integrate NRM, Climate, and Land outcomes to meet Feed the Future policies and strategies
 - Provided technical support and policy guidance to country missions

- Senior Program Manager, Landcare Research, New Zealand** 2012-2015
- Established and led the New Zealand National Land Resource Centre
 - Provided leadership and managed over 20 themed international and national collaborative projects
 - Informed strategic policy development of agriculture, indigenous land governance and management
 - Built international and national government engagement in land management and resource governance
 - Delivered training and workshops for government, non-government, and indigenous stakeholders
 - Developed innovated approaches to adoption of innovative tools for sustainable ag practices
 - Managed research projects for a range of clients including Ministry of Primary Industries, Ministry of the Environment, Department of Conservation, regional councils, and Indigenous Landowner groups.
 - Conducted research and published technical reports and international peer reviewed articles

- Researcher, Landcare Research, New Zealand** 2008-2012
- Performed geospatial analysis of multiple and conducted biodiversity planning and land use modelling and published findings in international peer-reviewed literature
 - Oversaw the GIS mapping of grasslands for the national Land Cover Database 2013 (LCDB3).
 - Analyzed quantitative and qualitative data, conducted statistical modelling and reported findings in international journals
 - Managed the delivery of image processing element of the National Land-Use, Land Use Change Forestry (LULUCF) project. Responsible for data collection, quality control, staff training and supervision

- Environmental Science Advisor, UNDP/GEF/GTZ/WICE** 2012-2013
- Science and strategic partnership advisor for REDD++, SREP, PIC, SCB-Oceania, PNG, Ethiopia Sustainable Development Investment, Fiji Eco-Tourism Board on building international collaboration for science research in the Pacific Islands and globally

- Senior Lecturer, International Pacific College, New Zealand** 2003-2011
- Devised and delivery of undergraduate and post-graduate papers in environmental impact assessment, international development, social safeguards and sustainability, and environmental policy

LANGUAGES

Spanish - Limited Business Proficiency
French – Intermediate Proficiency

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Climate Association Federal Steering Committee (2021—present)
United States Global Climate Change Research Program Committee (2021– present)
Association for the Advancement of American Scientists (2016– present)
Board Member Society for Conservation Biology (2008 – 2013)