ABOUT UTAH GLOBAL DIPLOMACY

Since 1967, Utah Global Diplomacy (Utah Global Diplomacy) has been Utah’s civil sector leader in shaping foreign relations by fostering people-to-people connections. Utah Global Diplomacy works with the U.S. Department of State to host international exchange programs, welcoming hundreds of business, nonprofit, government, and religious leaders from around the world to meet our community of leaders in Utah. These exchange programs highlight Utah as an innovative and economic hub while experiencing Utah’s unique culture and landscape. Their experience in Utah truly defines what “life elevated” is all about.

ANNUAL NUMBERS AT A GLANCE:

- 135 Countries Hosted
- 450 International Visitors Welcomed
- 2,500 Days Spent In Utah
- 5,000 Participated in Meetings, Tours, Volunteer Projects & Cultural Activities

2019 ECONOMIC IMPACT

- $233,178 Government Funding for Exchanges
- $1,006,335 Revenue Generated from Exchanges
- $1,239,513 Total Economic Impact in Utah from Exchanges

LOCAL BENEFITS OF EXCHANGES

NATIONAL SECURITY
Each year, thousands of leaders, professionals, scholars, government officials, and students from almost every country in the world visit the U.S. through the Department of State. Many come from countries critical to U.S. foreign policy interests like Mexico, Japan, India, and Saudi Arabia.

ECONOMIC INTERESTS
For every $1 of state of Utah appropriation funding received, Utah Global Diplomacy generates $25 in economic revenue for the state. All funding stays in Utah.

U.S. GLOBAL PERCEPTION
76% of Utah’s exchange program alumni say they have a better perception of Utah & the United States after their exchange program experience. Additionally, 86% of exchange alumni say they share their experience of Utah with others.
DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

The Long-term Impact by Numbers

We at Utah Global Diplomacy believe in the value of data-driven evidence to guide our organizational and program growth. One data set we measure is the long-term, global impact of the international exchange programs, which is done by gathering qualitative data from the global leaders who participate in our exchange programs. Their responses indicate that the Utah segment of their program introduces them to meaningful cultural exchanges, increases mutual understanding between nations, provides professional and personal development, and has an expansive global impact. The following data summarizes our qualitative report findings, coupled with supportive quotes.

81% Innovative or renewed energy for work or cause
71% More connected to one’s own community through increased capacity
76% Increased networks and connections
62% Increased public recognition and engagement
29% Working to pass democratic laws or public policies
52% Increased philanthropy in a community (fundraising and volunteerism)
86% Promotes their experience in Utah with others abroad
76% Improved Utah and U.S. relations

The Long-term Impact by Experience

INNOVATIVE OR RENEWED ENERGY FOR WORK OR CAUSE

My time in Utah was a turning point in my life. Not only professionally, but also as a life experience. In the professional realm, making connections with other entrepreneurs, businesses, and organizations brought lots of learnings and insights to the way I see my own business. Learning about Utah, its culture, and its people was an experience I cherish a lot. I am grateful and proud to have part of this program.

- Andrea Toro Ortuno, Bolivia

A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF UTAH AND THE U.S.

“Living in Salt Lake City reinforced how I see the world, and makes me feel more committed to my community and country. Living in Utah with the most interesting and intellectual people in America is an experience that I cannot describe with words – it is like Disneyland for entrepreneurs.

- Xavier Retif, Mexico

MORE CONNECTED TO COMMUNITY THROUGH INCREASED CAPACITY

The meetings in Utah build capacity for me and will serve as a stepping stone. I promised to cascade lessons learned and experiences and knowledge gained back home. I am a rural woman and did not go to University, just high school, and became a drop-out. But I have been doing capacity-building training of sorts in my country and attending such programs as IVLP is like having my master’s degree in the work I do in my community.

- Doris Fatima Webber, Sierra Leone