

Wildlife Law Enforcement Experts Needed for Short-Term Assignment advising the Central America Wildlife Enforcement Network

OPPORTUNITY

The U.S. Department of the Interior, International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) seeks individuals for a short-term assignment advising the Central America Wildlife Enforcement Network on:

- Wildlife law enforcement principles and skills
- Frameworks for international wildlife law enforcement cooperation
- Coordination between prosecutors, police, customs, and CITES authorities on wildlife enforcement
- Illegal wildlife trade supply, demand, and smuggling routes
- Links between wildlife crime and other criminal activities
- Evidence collection
- Analysis, use, and sharing of intelligence
- Investigations
- Organization of interagency and international joint operations
- Inspections and control at ports-of-entry
- Implementation of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES)

ASSIGNMENT

One specialist will participate in a one-week regional meeting and training event the week of September 26, 2011 in San Salvador, El Salvador. Up to six follow-up national trainings of 3-4 days each will take place over the next 12 months in Central America. These may be conducted by several different specialists, depending on availability. Planning and coordination time will be required at the home duty station for pre-trip preparation, and additional time will be necessary for post-trip follow-up.

BACKGROUND

DOI-ITAP provides assistance to developing countries on subjects of Departmental expertise on a reimbursable basis. The program currently operates across the globe with support from organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Department of State, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

DOI manages over 200 million hectares of federal land, including national parks, refuges, multiple-use lands, recreation areas, dams, and historic sites. DOI has eight technical bureaus, including the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which is the U.S. Government's lead agency for implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. DOI is in a unique position to exchange lessons learned and best practices of wildlife enforcement with the Central America Wildlife Enforcement Network.

Central America, part of the Mesoamerican Biodiversity Hotspot, is home to 7% of the world's biodiversity. It's wealth of natural resources and wildlife has created an illegal market for many of its flora and fauna to the point where many of these endemic species are now in danger of becoming extinct.

The Central American Wildlife Enforcement Network (CA-WEN) is designed as a regional, intergovernmental law-enforcement network with the purpose of combating the illegal wildlife trade. The Central American Wildlife Enforcement Network allows governments to better preserve their rich wildlife by allowing them to share information and learn from each other's best practices.

PRE- AND POST-TRIP DUTIES

All travel and in-country logistics will be handled by DOI-ITAP. Background materials will be provided to the selected individuals prior to the assignment. The selected individuals will be expected to work in collaboration with DOI-ITAP staff, specialists from DOJ, and international organizations such as Interpol on preparation and follow-up via phone and email. Within three weeks of the completion of the trip, the specialists will provide DOI-ITAP with a brief draft report focusing on the trip events, evaluations, and recommendations for future assistance.

COSTS

DOI-ITAP will cover all travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals and incidentals, immunizations, etc.). The salaries of the specialists will be paid by their employing agency for the duration of the international assignment, including pre- and post-trip obligation. Retirees must participate in this assignment on a volunteer basis.

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

Persons wishing to be considered for these assignments should have the following qualifications:

- Current or retired DOI employee or other federal or state government employee (preference given to current or retired DOI employees)
- Experience and expertise in most or all of the topics listed above under "opportunity"
- Demonstrated ability to provide hands-on, practical training
- Interpersonal and diplomacy skills to effectively collaborate with DOI, other US government agencies, foreign governments, NGO partners, and other stakeholders
- Ability to adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups
- Spanish fluency
- Previous international work experience in developing countries desired

Upon selection, candidates must submit a current physician-signed letter or medical review form indicating fitness-for-duty. Candidates selected for this assignment must obtain supervisor approval to participate in this program.

HOW TO APPLY

Application Deadline: July 22, 2011.

Please submit a:

1. current resume
2. cover letter, summarizing relevant work experience

Please submit applications via email to:

Jason Riley
Project Manager
International Technical Assistance Program
U.S. Department of the Interior
Tel: (202) 208-5224
Fax: (202) 501-6381
E-mail: jason_riley@ios.doi.gov

If you are selected for this assignment you will be responsible for obtaining your supervisor's approval to participate in this program, as well as additional approvals up your supervisory chain of command as necessary.

Employees of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement are required to have supervisory approval prior to submitting an application.

NPS applicants should copy their applications to Rudy D'Alessandro (rudy_dalessandro@nps.gov) in the NPS Office of International Affairs. All NPS applicants must have the approval to apply from their Associate Director or Regional Director.

All BLM applicants should also copy their applications to Olivia Sierra (osierra@blm.gov) in the BLM Office of International Affairs.

Application Process

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by telephone. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process by email.

This position is open to all applicants who meet the stated requirements. Every effort will be made to select applicants that have not yet had the opportunity to participate on an ITAP assignment.

Updated: Aug 2012