

# Short Term Assignment

## CITES Experts

### Kingdom of Jordan

## Late Spring/Summer/Early Fall 2013

**OPPORTUNITY:** The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) is seeking one or two qualified experts with extensive experience with implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and wildlife trafficking and natural resource poaching in general, for a two week assessment mission to the Kingdom of Jordan.

**BACKGROUND:** DOI-ITAP provides assistance to developing countries on subjects of Departmental expertise on a reimbursable basis. The program is currently operating across the globe with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the State Department, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation. DOI-ITAP has managed short- and long-term multi-partner projects in over 50 countries since 1995.

The U.S. Agency for International Development has provided funds to DOI's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) to assess the current state of the CITES implementation structure in Jordan. Jordan was the first Arab country in the Middle East to sign the CITES convention (1978). This project will be closely coordinated with the Royal Society for Conservation of Nature (RSCN), the management authority for the CITES in Jordan. The goal of this engagement is to lay the groundwork for future collaboration on CITES-related issues.

For this assignment, DOI-ITAP's key partners in Jordan include:

- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
  - Royal Society for Conservation of Nature (RSCN), a non-government agency that manages the majority of protected areas in Jordan
- Assorted government Ministries

**ASSIGNMENT:** ITAP is seeking a team of one or two experts on CITES. The team will meet with government officials and make site visits as part of a fact-finding mission to assess the current state of the CITES implementation structure in Jordan. In addition, the team may engage central government and local officials in discussions on poaching and trafficking issues- priority topics may include illegal logging and the killing of Arabian oryx. The Arabian oryx is listed by CITES as an Appendix I species. Finally, the team will conduct an overall assessment of CITES-related training needs in Jordan.

**SCHEDULE:** This assignment is expected to cover a two week period in late spring, summer or early fall of 2013. Exact dates are dependent on the availability of the chosen candidate(s) and in-country partners. The technical assistance provided will primarily take the form of meetings with government officials in Amman, Jordan, as well as site visits to areas where poaching and trafficking (e.g., port of entry) has been an issue.

**PRE- AND POST-TRIP DUTIES:** All travel and in-country logistics will be handled by DOI-ITAP and/or our in-country counterpart. Background material and briefings will be provided to the selected individuals prior to departure. The selected individuals will be expected to work in

collaboration with DOI-ITAP project managers and U.S. Embassy staff on the preparation and follow-up over phone and email to discuss technical aspects of the project.

Within three weeks of the completion of the trip, the individual will provide the DOI-ITAP managers a brief draft trip report of the trip events, evaluations made, and recommendations for future actions. NPS travelers will also submit this report to their Office of International Affairs.

**COSTS:** DOI-ITAP will cover all travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals, medical insurance, immunizations, per diem, etc.). The **salaries of the team members, however, will be paid by their employing DOI agency** for the duration of the international assignment, including pre- and post-trip obligation. Stipends, or other forms of compensation, are **NOT** available for retiree candidates. Please note that travel expenses will **NOT** count against Bureau travel ceilings.

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Competitive applicants for this assignment will:

- Be a current or retired employee of DOI;
- Have demonstrated experience in CITES;
- Have extensive experience in poaching/trafficking issues as they relate to CITES;
- Law enforcement field experience in addressing poaching/trafficking is a plus
- Have experience and/or ability to conduct CITES assessments, including CITES-related training assessments;
- Have demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups;
- Arabic language proficiency (an asset but not a requirement);
- Previous international experience is desirable, particularly experience in the Middle East.

Upon selection, candidates must submit a current physician-signed letter or medical review form indicating fitness for duty.

**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 (see below).**

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Persons interested in being considered for this international assignment must:

- Send a resume and cover letter summarizing direct, relevant work experience, related to the skills listed under application requirements. Please submit electronically to Colleen Castle (202-208-5160, [colleen\\_castle@ios.doi.gov](mailto:colleen_castle@ios.doi.gov)) and Marc Weitzel (805-671-9746, [marc\\_weitzel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:marc_weitzel@ios.doi.gov)) with the subject: "Application Jordan CITES"
  - Cover letter and resume should be send as one document (preferably a PDF) with the file name "FULL NAME\_BUREAU\_JOB TITLE"
- If your supervisor has already given approval, please indicate this.
- All applications should be submitted as soon as possible but no later than **March 8, 2013**. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Any and all questions can be directed to the contact information above for Colleen Castle or Marc Weitzel.

**All NPS applicants** should copy their applications to Rudy D'Alessandro ([rudy\\_dalessandro@nps.gov](mailto: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. *ADs/RDs fully encourage qualified NPS staff to apply; securing the approval of the ADs/RDs before applying is intended to ensure that supervisory chains are aware of the potential for ITAP engagement.*

**All BLM applicants** should also copy their applications to Olivia Sierra ([osierra@blm.gov](mailto:osierra@blm.gov)) in the BLM Office of International Affairs. BLM applicants **must** have the approval of their immediate supervisor to apply.

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

**Please note that ITAP travel does not require the use of a field office credit card and travel will not count towards 'travel caps'.**

#### **Application Process**

The entire selection process may take several weeks. A short list of candidates will be interviewed by telephone. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process by telephone, email or letter. **The position is open to all applicants that meet the stated requirements. If applicants do not receive an email acknowledgement of receipt of their application, please inquire with the Project Managers listed above.**