

Short Term Assignment

Geographic Information System Training

Kingdom of Jordan

Spring 2012

OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) is seeking a qualified expert on geographic information systems (GIS) to work with and train in-country partners on the use and application of GIS tools at Petra Archaeological Park in Jordan.

BACKGROUND: DOI-ITAP provides technical assistance on a reimbursable basis to other countries on subjects of Departmental expertise. The program is currently operating in approximately twenty countries on a wide variety of natural and cultural resource management issues with support from organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the State Department, World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

The U.S. Agency for International Development has provided funds to DOI's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) to implement this project, named the Jordan Parks Project. The project is closely coordinated with the Petra Development Tourism Regional Authority whose Chairman reports directly to the Prime Minister of Jordan. The Jordan Parks Project aims to encourage economic growth via development of the Kingdom's cultural and natural tourism sites—for instance Petra Archaeological Park, Wadi Rum Nature Reserve, Aqaba Marine Park, and a number of other protected areas.

DOI-ITAP's key partners in Jordan include:

- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Petra Archaeological Park (PAP) and its management entity
- Siyaha, a tourism development project in Jordan

ASSIGNMENT: ITAP is seeking experts on GIS to provide short, introductory training at Petra Archaeological Park (PAP) in the Kingdom of Jordan. Some GIS tools are currently being used in the park, and additional understanding of the application of these tools is required for their effective use. After being briefed on the status of GIS expertise in the park, as well as the park's geographic concerns, the DOI-ITAP specialist will travel to Jordan to conduct GIS exercises and train PAP staff in the ongoing use of geographic information systems. Tasks may include mapping park boundaries, instructing a group of rangers and staff in the classroom and in the field, and general GIS support. Petra Archaeological Park has specifically requested assistance in GIS as a way of improving capacity for park management. The DOI-ITAP specialist will likely be working at PAP at the same time as other DOI-ITAP teams that will be able to provide additional information and support. The chosen candidate will work consultatively with PAP staff and management.

SCHEDULE: This assignment will involve approximately 1-2 weeks of in-country work late in April 2012, although missions are scheduled with a high degree of flexibility for setting dates amenable

to selected candidates and their supervisors.

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 on the preparation and follow-up for the technical assistance over phone and email. The preparation will include communicating with DOI-ITAP project managers and team members to discuss technical aspects of the project.

Within three weeks of the completion of the trip, the team will provide the DOI-ITAP managers a brief draft trip report of the trip events, evaluations made, and recommendations for future actions in Petra.

COSTS: The International Technical Assistance Program 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. No stipends or other compensation is available for retiree candidates.**

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Competitive applicants for this assignment will:

- Be a current or retired employee of DOI;
- Have extensive professional level experience in the use of geographic information systems in protected areas;
- Have experience delivering training in GIS principles to audiences with varying levels of familiarity with the subject;
- Have demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups;
- Previous international experience and experience in the Middle East (this is preferable, although not a requirement);
- Arabic proficiency is welcomed but not necessary for this assignment.

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.

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

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 (colleen_castle@ios.doi.gov) with the subject: "GIS Training, Jordan"

- If your supervisor has already given approval, please indicate this.
- All applications should be submitted as soon as possible but no later than **07 February 2012**. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Any and all questions can be directed to Colleen Castle, the DOI-ITAP Jordan Parks Project Assistant, at 202-208-5160 or colleen_castle@ios.doi.gov) or Marc Weitzel, DOI-ITAP Senior Advisor and Jordan Parks Project Manager at 805-671-9746 or marc_weitzel@ios.doi.gov.

All NPS applicants should also copy their applications to Rudy D'Alessandro (rudy_dalessandro@nps.gov) in the NPS Office of International Affairs. ***As per NPS policy, NPS employees who have traveled with DOI-ITAP within 12 months of the departure are ineligible.***

Application Process

A short list of candidates will be interviewed by telephone. The entire selection process may take several months. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process by telephone or email.

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