

**Short Term Assignment**  
**Protected Areas Land Use Planner**  
**Kingdom of Jordan**  
**Fall 2013**

**OPPORTUNITY:** The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) is seeking an expert in land use planning and protected areas management to assist our in-country partner with the design and implementation of a one day seminar in Amman and a three-day land use planning workshop at the Mujib Reserve in 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. DOI has been active in the Kingdom of Jordan since the 1960s.

The U.S. Agency for International Development has provided funds to DOI's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) to help design and facilitate a protected areas land use planning workshop for approximately 25 Jordanian natural resource management professionals. The training workshop will be held in collaboration with the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN). A major partner for ITAP in Jordan, the RSCN is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization that manages seven protected areas in Jordan. The mission of the RSCN is to protect Jordan's natural environment while linking its conservation efforts to socioeconomic development.

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 nonprofit, non-governmental organization that manages the majority of protected areas in Jordan

**ASSIGNMENT:** DOI-ITAP is seeking a specialist in environmental/natural resource land use planning and protected area management for a three-day workshop in Jordan. In partnership with a representative from Jordan's Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, the DOI-ITAP specialist will help in the design and preparation of materials for a national seminar and also facilitate a training course workshop. This will be an approximately seven day assignment, including travel, based in Jordan. **The trip will take place late September-October; actual dates will be determined based on availability of the selected team member.**

Additional time will be required at the home duty station starting in August 2013 to collaborate with the RSCN's Land Use Officer on the development of an agenda and materials for the workshop.

While in Jordan the DOI specialist selected for this assignment will work closely with ITAP's Amman-based in-country coordinator and the staff of RSCN. Together with a RSCN Land Use Officer, the selected specialist will co-lead a one day seminar in Amman followed by a three-day workshop at Mujib Nature Reserve for 25 participants from different national institutions in Jordan. Participants are expected to include protected area managers, ecologists, conservation managers and natural resources managers. The targeted institutions are RSCN, Wadi Rum Protected Area, the Petra Development and Tourism Region Authority and Aqaba Marine Park. The final agenda for the workshop will be created by the DOI-ITAP team and their RSCN counterparts, specifically the selected DOI expert and the RSCN Land Use Officer.

Preliminary objectives of the seminar are to:

- Introduce the concept of environmental/natural resource land use planning, objectives and advantages.
- Exchange experiences at the national level (national planners).
- Compare the Jordanian experience to international case studies and best practices.

Preliminary objectives of the training workshop are to:

- Provide comprehensive understanding about the principles of environmental/natural resource land use planning,
- Achieve consensus on how to approach protected areas (PA) management from a landscape perspective that considers land development and degradation outside PA borders,
- Demonstrate some of the current land use planning schemes, and how this can be reflected in PA management.
- Demonstrate the importance of engaging stakeholders and local communities in the environmental/natural resource land use planning process.

**SCHEDULE:** This travel portion of this assignment is expected to occur either late September or in October. The exact dates will be determined later and will be based on the availability of the team members. Preparation for the trip is expected to begin in August 2013.

**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 individual prior to departure. The selected individual will be expected to work in collaboration with DOI-ITAP project managers, U.S. Embassy staff and RSCN staff on the preparation and follow-up over phone and email, including the creation of an agenda and materials needed for the workshop.

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, and any other mission related work products. 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 extensive knowledge and professional experience in natural resource land use planning and protected area management;
- Have demonstrated experience in designing and facilitating workshops;
- 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 Land Use Planning"
  - 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 **August 5th, 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.**