

Sustainable Tourism / Protected Area Management Plans Capacity Building in Morocco

OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Department of the Interior's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) is seeking candidates with backgrounds in conducting green audits and/or experience in establishing green building criteria to provide technical assistance to the Government of Morocco's (GOM) Ministry of Tourism (MOT). The goal of the technical assistance is to assist the GOM/MOT in adapting existing international standards for sustainable development to the Moroccan context and in developing their methodology for conducting environmental reviews of tourism lodging facilities. The selected candidates would develop and co-lead a two week training program to take place in Morocco in FY 2011 or FY 2012. This announcement may be used to select candidates for more than one assignment. The technical assistance will cover areas of expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Applying existing international standards for sustainable tourism operations, including existing schemes for classifying "green" tourism accommodations;
- Developing green building review criteria and methodology;
- Advising on remedial actions and impact mitigation measures;
- Providing recommendations for refining the green audit process;
- Incorporating impact mitigation into tourism planning efforts;
- Conserving and protecting natural and cultural resources as a foundation for tourism.

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 organizations such as the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank.

In June 2010, DOI-ITAP signed an agreement with the Department of State's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) to carry out activities that further environmental cooperation goals with Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partner countries, build stronger diplomatic ties with those countries, and to improve FTA partner countries' ability to better manage their environment and natural resources. Morocco is one of the key countries targeted in the agreement. A series of technical assistance activities under this agreement has been developed in order to promote the development of Morocco's sustainable tourism sector and the long-term conservation of its biodiversity and natural resources.

ASSIGNMENT: The technical assistance will be a two week in-country assignment (dates and location TBD). Some time will be required at the home duty station for pre-trip preparation and post-trip follow-up activities (e.g. final trip report and recommendations). The DOI specialists selected for this assignment will work closely with DOI-ITAP managers and officials from the Moroccan Ministry of Tourism to develop the curriculum and structure of the technical

assistance; and help identify pilot areas and partners for green building reviews and dissemination of green building review criteria.

SCHEDULE: FY 2011 and/or FY 2012, exact dates TBD

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 trip. The selected individuals will be expected to work in collaboration with the DOI-ITAP manager on the preparation and follow-up for the technical assistance via phone and email.

Within three weeks of completion of the trip, the team will provide the DOI-ITAP manager a brief draft report focusing on the trip events, evaluations, and recommendations for future related training and relevant technical assistance in Morocco.

COSTS: ITAP will cover all travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals, immunizations, per diem, etc.). The salaries of the team members will be paid by their employing DOI agency for the duration of the international assignment, including pre- and post-trip obligation.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Persons wishing to be considered for this assignment:

- Preference given to current or retired DOI employees and other USG employees;
- Must be an excellent facilitator with experience in the delivery of training courses that focus on working with one or more of the following: green building criteria and methodology, environmental management systems or green audits, sustainable tourism operations, sustainable infrastructure development, mitigation of impacts of tourism activities on natural resources;
- Must have theoretical and practical knowledge of sustainable tourism operations and facilities best practices from both the practical and the policy perspectives;
- Must have a demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups;
- Experience in the Morocco, Northern Africa or the Middle East is desirable;
- Previous international experience is desirable; and
- French language speakers are desirable.

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.

HOW TO APPLY

Persons interested in being considered for this international assignment should send a resume or letter summarizing relevant work experience. A form SF-171 is acceptable. Please submit applications (electronically is preferred) to both:

Emily Kilcrease

Email: emily_kilcrease@ios.doi.gov

Subject line: Sustainable Tourism / Protected Areas Management, Morocco
-and-

Tricia Bickley

Email: patricia_bickley@ios.doi.gov

Subject line: Sustainable Tourism / Protected Areas Management, Morocco

Please contact Emily Kilcrease (Tel: 202/208-7103; Email: emily_kilcrease@ios.doi.gov) or Tricia Bickley (Tel: 202/219-0187; Email: patricia_bickley@ios.doi.gov) with any questions.

Applicants must also complete the ITAP application form found at:

<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dF9jUWcwcFJKSXJXNkxIMWZ6cU56eFE6MA>

All applications should be submitted as soon as possible, as applications will be reviewed and interviews conducted on a rolling basis.

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 cannot travel for DOI-ITAP twice within a 12 month period.

Application Process

A short list of candidates will be interviewed by telephone. The entire selection process may take several weeks. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process by telephone, e-mail, or letter.

This position is open to all applicants who meet the stated requirements.