

Landscape Architects, Engineers and Infrastructure/Facilities Experts for Short-Term Assignment in Tanzania

OPPORTUNITY: The US Department of the Interior's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) seeks two landscape architects, engineers, or other infrastructure/facilities experts

DOI-ITAP will select two individuals to travel to Gombe National Park, Tanzania and work with Tanzania national Parks Authority (TANAPA, www.tanzaniaparks.com) and the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI, www.janegoodall.org/where-we-work#gge) to conduct a thorough assessment of TANAPA and JGI infrastructure in the park.

While specifics of the detail will be formalized during pre-trip planning efforts between the team and Tanzanian partners, the team will be expected to address at least the specific taskings listed under "Assignment."

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 US Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

DOI-ITAP has worked at a number of locations in Tanzania since 1997. Technical assistance activities have touched on a variety of themes, including law enforcement training for rangers, design and construction of roads within protected areas, management of marine protected areas, tourism planning, and environmental interpretation activities.

Gombe National Park (GNP), located in western Tanzania along the Albertine arm of the Great Rift Valley, was established in 1968 and at approximately 32 sq miles in size is the smallest of Tanzania's national parks. The Park is bio-rich and is particularly known for its population of the eastern subspecies of chimpanzee. Jane Goodall began her long-term studies of wild chimpanzees in Gombe in 1960. In addition to chimpanzees, Gombe has a rich primate community that includes Olive baboons, red colobus monkeys, red-tailed monkeys, and others. A diverse avian (over 250 species) and mammal (at least 35 species) fauna are present. Gombe lies at a junction where West African forest and East African woodland and grassland meet. The area includes a site where Livingstone and Stanley camped while searching for the source of the Nile River in 1871. GNP is experiencing pressure from tourism and an expanding human population around its perimeter.

ASSIGNMENT: Reorganizing staff housing at the Gombe Stream Research Center continues to be a top priority for the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI). JGI has embarked on a process that will hopefully lead to funding for improved housing at Gombe. Given the

substantial investment that this will entail, JGI – with DOI technical support – should ensure that strategic decisions are made to ensure that the safety of the chimpanzees and the ecological integrity of the park are maintained, when construction is initiated.

The DOI-ITAP assistance team would work with the Gombe National Park staff in Gombe to discuss and follow-up on recommendations provided by the initial DOI-ITAP team in 2009. This information will be useful for all the stakeholders to assess the cost & other implications for this project. Specifically, the DOI-ITAP assessment team will:

- Review the current location of the staff quarters and its impact on the park, chimpanzee habitat, and potential for disease transmission between chimpanzees and humans;
- Review the architectural plans that have been developed for JGI Gombe Stream Research Center (GSRC) staff housing, and ensure that they conform to sustainable design principles, and if not, suggest appropriate changes to them or provide an alternative design;
- Assess the current location of GSRC staff housing and other infrastructure, and review potential areas that may be more suitable for their location (both inside and outside Gombe), taking into consideration site location and accessibility, ecological impacts, transmission of disease from human to chimpanzees, and provide recommendations to JGI and TANAPA on the best place to locate GSRC and other infrastructure. Consideration of staff functions will be important in determining the number of people to be accommodated and their locations in proximity to Gombe.
- Provide estimated costs for adoption of recommendations provided by USDOI-ITAP.
- Develop an architectural and landscape plan with an emphasis on sustainable design, which shows the appropriate locations for infrastructure within the park.
- Assess similar issues with TANAPA infrastructure, with an emphasis on the Park Hostel. In concert with TANAPA and JGI, develop final plans for demolition or alternate use of the Hostel. Develop final conceptual design plans for housing overnight Park visitors.

This detail will be conducted as an approximate three-week assignment in Gombe National Park. Considerable planning and research time will be required at the home duty station for pre-trip preparation, and additional time will be necessary for post-trip follow-up activities (e.g. final trip report and recommendations). While in Tanzania, the DOI specialists selected for this assignment will work closely with the appropriate contacts within the TANAPA, JGI, and the PAMS Foundation (DOI-ITAP's in-country coordinator).

SCHEDULE: This assignment is expected to occur in August 2011, with dates set that are amenable to selected candidates, their supervisors, and our Tanzanian partners.

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 over phone and via email.

Within three weeks of the 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 policy development.

COSTS: ITAP will cover all travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals, immunizations, per diem, etc.). The salaries of the travelers 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.
- **SELECTIVE FACTOR:** Must have an extensive professional background in planning, assessing, and developing protected areas related infrastructure, including ability to produce schematic/conceptual diagrams for the development of infrastructure.
- Should be familiar with the design development and construction phase needs of a project, particularly those occurring in protected areas or other sensitive habitats.
- Experience as a landscape architect or engineer is highly desirable.
- 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.
- Must have demonstrated ability to coordinate with multiple partners and stakeholders.
- Previous international experience is 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 must:

1. Send a formal résumé -- a form SF-171 is acceptable.
2. Send a cover letter, summarizing relevant work experience.

3. Fill out the following webform:

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

Please submit applications (electronic is preferred) to:

Levi White, Project Manager
Office of International Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW MS-3530
Washington, DC 20240
Tel: 202-208-1480
E-mail: levi_white@ios.doi.gov

Please contact Levi White or Marc Weitzel (marc_weitzel@ios.doi.gov; 805-671-9746) with any questions.

All applications should be submitted as soon as possible but no later than COB June 10, 2011. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.

All NPS applicants should copy their applications to Rudy D'Alessandro (rudy_dalessandro@nps.gov) in the NPS Office of International Affairs.

Application Process

Shortlisted 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, e-mail, or letter.

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