



**U.S. DEPARTMENT  
OF THE INTERIOR**  
INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



**DOI-ITAP**

Factsheet

Security & Stability Overseas

## Supporting Security, Stability and Governance Overseas

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) has unparalleled expertise in natural and cultural resource management which directly contributes to good governance, transparency, and the rule of law in the United States. DOI staff, for example:

- Enforce natural resource laws;
- Develop and implement legal and regulatory frameworks for resource management;
- Monitor and manage resources for public safety (e.g., dam safety, famine early warning systems, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, pandemics);
- Engage civil society in decision-making; and
- Contribute to sustainable resource-based economic growth.

The Department's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) shares U.S. best practices with other

### Selected Accomplishments

governments to enhance good governance, stability, and security overseas.

**Law Enforcement:** Throughout Asia, Africa, and Latin America, DOI-ITAP strengthens national and regional law enforcement by:

- Improving field patrols and marine and coastal law enforcement procedures;
- Enhancing crime scene investigations and forensic capabilities;
- Training border inspectors;
- Supporting Wildlife Enforcement Networks; and
- Developing environmental crime databases.

**Regulatory Framework:** With an emphasis on sharing open, fair, and transparent processes that enhance public confidence in government, DOI-ITAP helped to:

- Strengthen regulatory frameworks for oil and gas production in Uganda, Liberia, Mexico, and Argentina;
- Improve policy, planning and management to support protected area systems in Georgia and Tanzania;
- Bolster oversight of the coal sector in Indonesia; and
- Strengthen legislation regarding trade in endangered species in Chile, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador.



*In an effort to reduce violent confrontations in South America, Colombian indigenous and Native American leaders share lessons on minimizing impacts from extractive industries on indigenous lands. Photo Credit: DOI/Bureau of Indian Affairs.*

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**Public Safety:** Many aspects of DOI-ITAP’s work address public safety – a cornerstone of national and regional stability and security. Results of this work include:

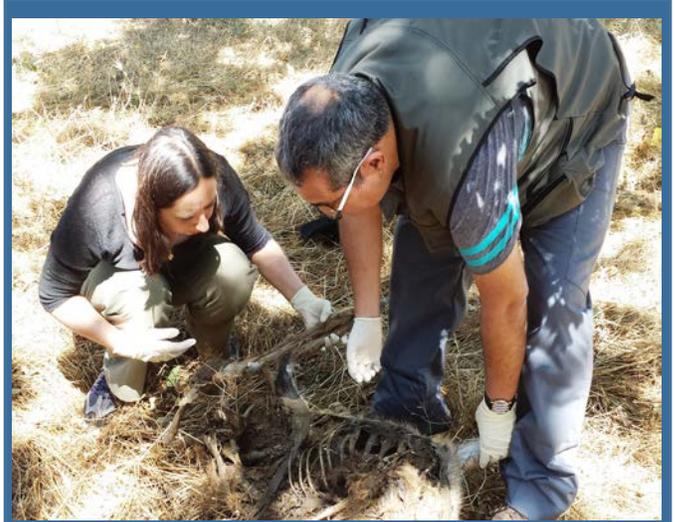
- African professionals trained on the Incident Command System and wildfire management;
- Improved mine safety protocols in Chile;
- Upgraded search and rescue procedures for Georgian protected area staff; and
- Improved dam safety measures for the Lower Mekong region of Southeast Asia.

**Civil Society:** An engaged civil society helps keep governments and other stakeholders accountable and reinforces consistency through political transitions. To this end, DOI-ITAP shared best practices for:

- Improved public participation in resource management along the Guatemala-Belize border;
- Effective engagement between governments, the private sector and South American indigenous peoples;
- Increased civil society engagement with non-governmental organizations in Morocco; and
- Effective youth engagement in Jordan.

**Economic Growth:** DOI-ITAP has supported resource-based tourism as an engine of economic growth to help stabilize vulnerable geographic areas, including:

- Wildlife Management Areas in Tanzania threatened by poverty;
  - Guatemala’s Maya Biosphere Reserve threatened by trafficking of drugs, humans, wildlife, and cultural resources;
  - Community conservancies in northern Kenya threatened by lawlessness; and
  - Protected areas in Oman threatened by unsustainable tourism practices.
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*Chilean participants at a mock wildlife crime scene; binational wildlife enforcement operation along the Costa Rican-Panamanian border; and multi-region energy production governance training. Photo credit: DOI-ITAP*

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