



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



DOI-ITAP

Factsheet

General Overview

U.S. Department of the Interior International Technical Assistance Program



Photo by DOI-ITAP

DOI law enforcement experts training Tanzanian national park guards

The U.S. Department of the Interior’s International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) collaborates with other countries by:

- Facilitating exchanges between DOI’s technical experts and international counterparts,
- Forging government-to-government working relationships, and
- Engaging private-sector implementing partners.

DOI-ITAP supports DOI and U.S. foreign policy priorities in over 60 countries with funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S. Department of State.

DOI is the cabinet-level agency responsible for the conservation and sustainable use of the Nation’s natural resources and cultural heritage. DOI relies on its 70,000 employees to manage the 500 million acres of land and 1.7 billion acres of the outer continental shelf under its jurisdiction.

Each year, DOI:

- Welcomes more than 550 million visitors to natural, cultural and recreational sites;
- Generates 2.3 million jobs; and
- Contributes over \$350 billion to the U.S. economy.

DOI-ITAP fields interdisciplinary teams from across DOI’s technical bureaus and offices, including:



National Park Service

- Manages 400+ protected areas
- Tourism services to 400+ million visitors/year



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Manages habitats for migratory species
- Monitors and protects endangered species



Bureau of Land Management

- Oversees public lands for multiple uses
- Regulates extraction of minerals, oil & gas



Bureau of Indian Affairs

- Promotes self-determination for tribes
- Supports wise management of tribal resources



U.S. Geological Survey

- World-class scientific research
- Analyzes and reduces natural hazards impacts



Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement

- Regulates coal mining industry
- Reclaims abandoned mine lands



Bureau of Safety & Environmental Enforcement

- Enforces environmental and safety regulations for offshore oil & gas operations



Bureau of Reclamation

- Largest supplier of water in the western U.S.
- Manages hydroelectric dams and energy production



Office of Natural Resources Revenue

- Collects and accounts for revenues from Federal mineral and oil & gas leases



Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

- Manages leases for offshore conventional and renewable energy

Benefits of Partnering with DOI-ITAP

DOI specialists have a depth of applied technical expertise, domestic and international experience, and relevant language skills, on which DOI-ITAP relies to field interdisciplinary teams from across the bureaus. DOI-ITAP managers guide and work with these specialized DOI teams, as well as in-country coordinators, to foster direct and sustained government-to-government professional exchanges with counterparts in other countries. DOI-ITAP partners with local and international NGOs as well as private contractors to generate measurable and lasting results.

Photos by DOI-ITAP



Left: DOI hydrology workshop in Indonesia



Right: Expanding renewable energy in Jamaica

DOI Technical Expertise

DOI-ITAP offers technical assistance from all areas of the Department's technical expertise, including:

- Combatting Wildlife Trafficking
- Community-Based Tourism
- Wildlife and Habitat Management
- Environmental Governance and Law Enforcement
- Indigenous Peoples Issues
- Natural Disaster Mitigation and Response
- Cultural Heritage Preservation
- Mining and Oil & Gas Best Practices
- Water Management

DOI-ITAP Success Stories

Worldwide: Improving Energy Sector Governance

- Shared best practices with emerging oil & gas producing countries
- Hosted U.S.-based study tours on energy regulation

Philippines: Enforcing Environmental Laws

- Streamlined legal procedures for environmental cases
- Established new environmental courts nationwide

Morocco: CITES Strengthened

- New Procedures Manual adopted to improve inter-agency implementation of CITES

Colombia: Land Use Governance

- Extensive field work and analysis led to expansion of Colombia's Chiribiquete National Park
- New best practices adopted for roads design through biologically sensitive areas

Lower Mekong Region: Environmental Safeguards for Infrastructure

- New guidelines adopted for dam safety, dam sediment management, and fish passage

Central America: Combatting Wildlife Trafficking (CWT)

- Established region-wide wildlife law enforcement network (CAWEN)
- Facilitated cross-border CWT operations and data-sharing
- Created mobile "Wildlife App" to report wildlife violations

Jordan: Advanced Sustainable Tourism

- Training manual adopted for park rangers
- Provided environmental education to youth

Georgia: Strengthening Protected Areas Network

- Helped establish national protected area system
- Enhanced natural resource legislation and policy

Tanzania: Improving Local Livelihoods through Conservation

- Designed tourism infrastructure
- Trained local communities on visitor services, road maintenance, and signage

Chile: Improved Mining Laws

- New laws adopted for mining financial assurance and site closure requirements

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