



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

# Short Term Assignment

## Sustainable Hydropower Technical Workshop Trainers

### Various Specialties

## Thailand May 2016 – May 2017

**OPPORTUNITY:** The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) is seeking experts with strong professional backgrounds in hydropower siting, environmental and social impact assessment and mitigation, sediment management, fisheries ecology, upstream and downstream fish passage, dam safety, fluvial geomorphology, river and geotechnical engineering, and related fields —see “Application Requirements” for a complete list. Three teams of 2-3 technical experts each will travel to Thailand; additional pre-trip curriculum development time will also be required. Previous ITAP participants in these areas of interest are encouraged to apply.

**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.

The U.S. Agency for International Development has engaged DOI-ITAP to provide technical support under the Smart Infrastructure for the Mekong (SIM) program. SIM is an implementation tool of the long-term Lower Mekong Initiative, which encompasses the Lower Mekong Basin countries of Thailand, Burma, Lao, Vietnam, and Cambodia. The SIM overarching objective is to promote sound social and environmental safeguards relative to the development and operation of hydropower related infrastructure and associated activities and other land use projects that may impact the general Mekong River environment. Projects/studies in support of SIM can occur in any of the Lower Mekong countries. This project focusses on one of the Region’s most important environmental issues – the environmental and social impacts of planned hydropower dams on the lower Mekong River and its tributaries.

DOI-ITAP has been asked by the Electrical Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) to organize and co-host a series of three regional workshops in Bangkok, Thailand. EGAT is a major investor in multiple large hydroelectric dams under construction and/or planned in the Lower Mekong region. The goal of the workshops is to inform the sustainability of Thailand’s hydropower investments in neighboring countries, including Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam, to engender regional cooperation and knowledge about the environmental and social impacts of hydropower facilities, and to highlight global best management practices and safeguards policy and practice. Each 3-day workshop will be open to 30 senior energy ministry and environmental regulatory ministry staff from each of the 5 Lower Mekong countries (6 each from Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Lao). This announcement solicits interest in any and all of the workshops; specific areas of expertise are described below.

**ASSIGNMENT:** The Sustainable Hydropower Technical Workshop Team will provide direct technical assistance to EGAT in curriculum design and presentation of three workshops in Bangkok, Thailand. Planned workshops are:

Workshop 1: Hydropower Design: Siting, environmental and social impact assessment.

Workshop 2: Hydropower Operations: Dam operations, sediment management, and safety.

Workshop 3: Hydropower Mitigation: Upstream and downstream fish passage design, operation, and monitoring.

Technical experts are encouraged to apply to present at one or multiple workshops. Each workshop will require a single, ten day trip to Thailand; one to two weeks of presentation development will also be expected at home stations prior to each workshop. The multi-disciplinary team will work under the guidance/supervision of the DOI-ITAP SIM Project Manager and the DOI-ITAP SIM Senior Technical Advisor. Workshops will be presented in English with simultaneous translation into one or more regional languages.

**SCHEDULE:** Workshops are tentatively scheduled for August, 2016, November, 2016, and February, 2017. This technical assistance will be provided in Bangkok, Thailand.

**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 individuals prior to departure. The selected individuals will be expected to work in collaboration with DOI-ITAP project managers and U.S. Embassy/USAID staff on the preparation and follow-up over phone and email to discuss technical aspects of the project.

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. 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 an MS (PhD preferred) and demonstrated mastery in at least one of the following disciplines: Sediment transport, nutrient transport, hydrology, fluvial geomorphology/riverine, delta, or estuarine biology/ ecology, fisheries ecology and management, river engineering, geology, water resources policy, and/or related fields.
- Have extensive experience in large and/or small hydropower policy and planning, impact assessment, operations, or mitigation;
- Have a demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups;
- Have an agency or academic publication record;
- Previous international experience is desirable, particularly experience in tropical or subtropical natural systems.

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 Sean Lawlor, Asia program assistant, at [sean\\_lawlor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sean_lawlor@ios.doi.gov) with the subject: *Thailand: Sustainable Hydropower Workshop # 1, 2, and/or 3 –XX Specialty*.
- Cover letter and resume should be sent 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 **March 18, 2016**. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Please contact Smart Infrastructure for the Mekong project manager Jason Riley with any questions at [Jason\\_riley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Jason_riley@ios.doi.gov).

**All applicants must secure approval from their supervisors to apply for an ITAP assignment. Supervisors will then adhere to their Bureau requirements for any further approvals required by the Bureau. For Bureau requirements, applicants should contact their appropriate Bureau International Affairs Point of Contact. A complete list of those POCs follows. All NPS, BOR and BLM applicants must copy their International Affairs POCs when they submit their applications to ITAP. FWS OLE applicants should contact OLE headquarters rather than apply directly to this announcement.**

<b>Bureau</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
BIA	Eric Wilson	<a href="mailto:Eric.wilson@bia.gov">Eric.wilson@bia.gov</a>	202-501-5944
BLM	Colin Strylowski	<a href="mailto:cstyslowski@blm.gov">cstyslowski@blm.gov</a>	202-912-7257
BOR	Rachel Brown	<a href="mailto:rebrown@usbr.gov">rebrown@usbr.gov</a>	202-513-0630
FWS	Latosha Jackson	<a href="mailto:latosha_jackson@fws.gov">latosha_jackson@fws.gov</a>	703-358-2418
	Jolyn Hopson	<a href="mailto:jolyn_hopson@fws.gov">jolyn_hopson@fws.gov</a>	703-358-2411
BSEE	Julie Fleming	<a href="mailto:julie.fleming@bsee.gov">julie.fleming@bsee.gov</a>	703-787-1681
	Mark Fleming	<a href="mailto:Mark.fleming@bsee.gov">Mark.fleming@bsee.gov</a>	202-208-4384
	Carolyn Beamer	<a href="mailto:carolyn.beamer@bsee.gov">carolyn.beamer@bsee.gov</a>	703-787-1699
BOEM	Emily Lindow	<a href="mailto:emily.lindow@boem.gov">emily.lindow@boem.gov</a>	202-513-0825
	Timothy McCune	<a href="mailto:Timothy.mccune@boem.gov">Timothy.mccune@boem.gov</a>	202-208-6632
NPS	Rudy D'Alessandro	<a href="mailto:Rudy_DAlessandro@nps.gov">Rudy_DAlessandro@nps.gov</a>	202-354-1805
	April Brooks	<a href="mailto:April_brooks@nps.gov">April_brooks@nps.gov</a>	202-354-1808
OSMRE	Sterling Rideout	<a href="mailto:srideout@osmre.gov">srideout@osmre.gov</a>	202-208-2596
USGS	Kevin Kunkel	<a href="mailto:kkunkel@usgs.gov">kkunkel@usgs.gov</a>	703-648-6206
ONRR	Jennifer Goldblatt	<a href="mailto:Jennifer.goldblatt@onrr.gov">Jennifer.goldblatt@onrr.gov</a>	202-513-0604

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 email. 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.