



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



DOI-ITAP

Factsheet

DOI-ITAP Overview

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

DOI-ITAP was established in 1995 to enable the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) to work with counterpart agencies overseas to support U.S. Government and Interior priorities. Working closely with DOI's bureaus and offices, DOI-ITAP has engaged with some 100 countries to combat wildlife trafficking, improve energy and mineral production and regulation, manage water resources, and generate economic growth through wise management of natural and cultural resources.

How We Work

DOI-ITAP achieves results through interventions such as:

- Government-to-government relationship building at all levels;
- Host country technical training and mentoring provided by DOI staff on short-term assignment;
- Long-term secondment of U.S. experts;
- U.S.-based training and shadowing conducted at DOI offices and field sites;
- Tailored exchanges between governmental and tribal counterparts;
- Formal sister protected area arrangements;
- Establishment of and support to national and regional networks;
- Formal partnering agreements with non-governmental organizations;
- DOI-ITAP In-Country and Regional Coordinators, from and based in partner countries;
- Procurement of technical advisory, administrative, and logistical services;
- Specialized support from DOI facilities – e.g., Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Wildlife Forensics Lab; and
- Virtual workshops, trainings, and roundtables.

Who We Are

DOI is the cabinet-level agency responsible for the conservation and sustainable use of U.S. natural resources and cultural heritage. DOI employs 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.



Benefits of Partnering with DOI-ITAP

DOI-ITAP fields interdisciplinary teams from across DOI's technical bureaus and offices. DOI specialists have a depth of applied technical expertise, domestic and international experience, and relevant language skills, on which DOI-ITAP draws to field interdisciplinary teams from across the bureaus. DOI-ITAP assignments have helped Interior staff advance their professional growth and bring international best practices and lessons learned to their home offices and field sites, advancing our work here in the United States.



DOI Technical Expertise

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

- Countering Wildlife Trafficking
- Mining and Oil & Gas Best Practices
- Water Management
- Wildlife and Habitat Management
- Indigenous Peoples Issues
- Natural Disaster Mitigation and Response
- Cultural Heritage Preservation

DOI-ITAP Success Stories

Energy Production and Regulation

- Helped develop improved regulations for the offshore oil and gas sector in Mexico.
- Helped develop oil spill response plans in Guyana, Colombia, Mexico, Liberia, Seychelles, and Sri Lanka
- Advised Romania on developing offshore wind sector

Water Management

- Advanced national groundwater management in the Philippines
- Improved agricultural water recycling in Tunisia
- Facilitated safe drinking water policy in Pakistan and El Salvador
- Developed Lower Mekong guidelines for dam management and fish passages



Minerals Management

- Hosted visits to U.S. mine sites to showcase environmental and social safeguards
- Helped inform lithium production and lithium brine management in Argentina
- Improved Chilean financial assurances and site mining closure legal requirements

Combatting Wildlife Trafficking (CWT)

- Established region-wide wildlife law enforcement network in Central America
- Helped Honduras, El Salvador and Chile achieve Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Category 1 status
- Designed a National Command Center to strengthen wildlife law enforcement in Zambia
- Streamlined legal procedures for environmental cases and established new environmental courts in the Philippines

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